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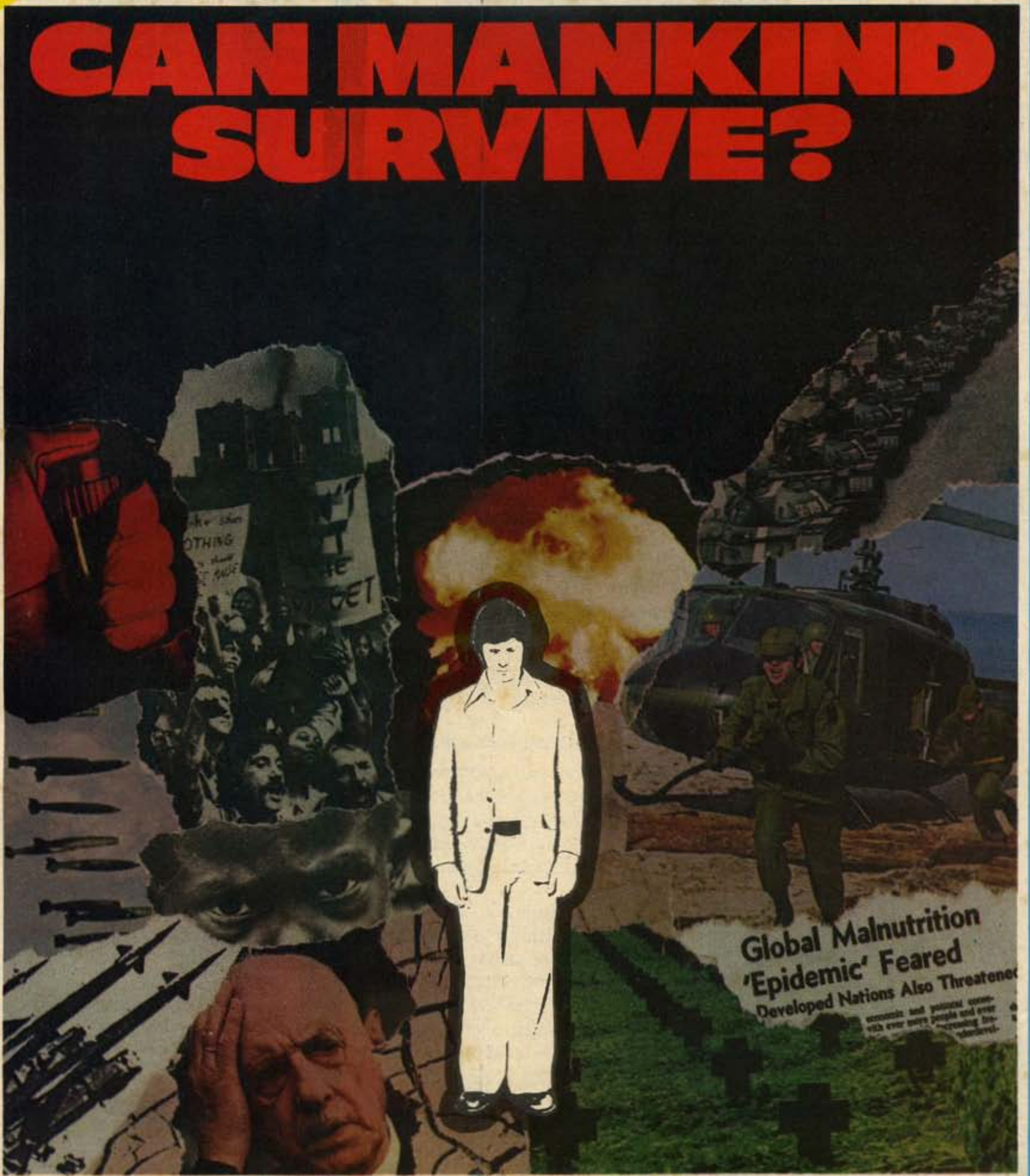
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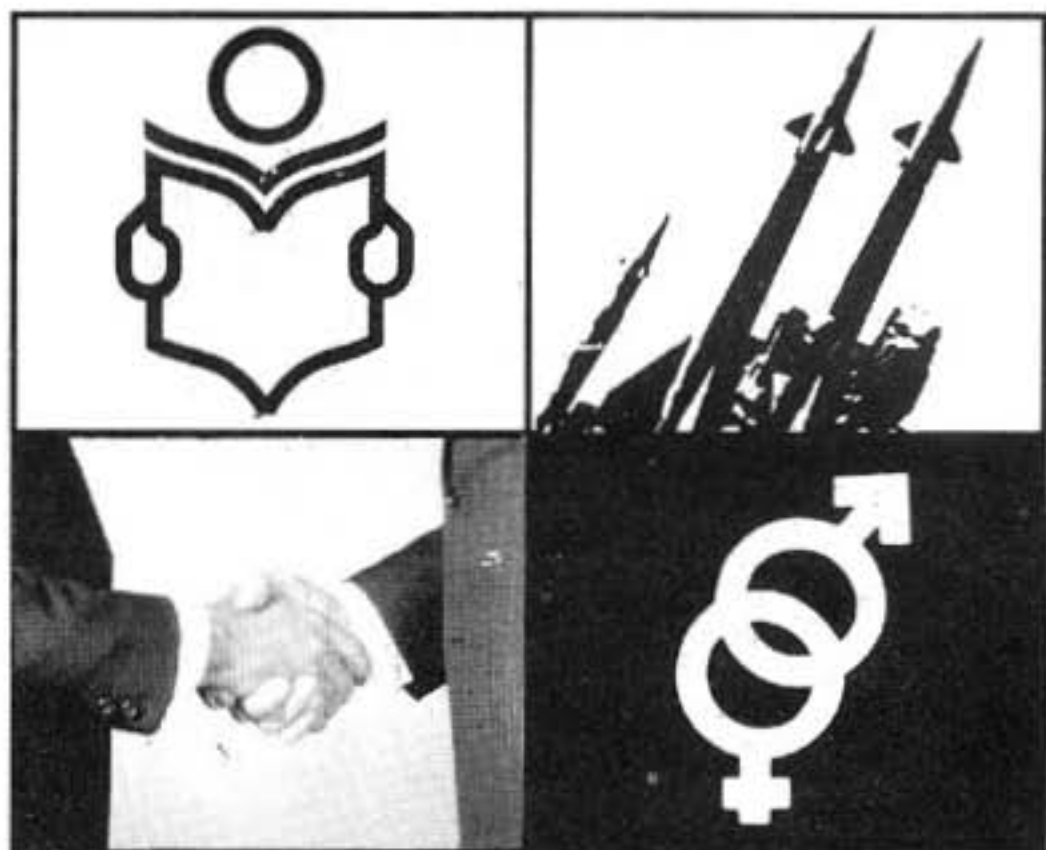
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CAN MANKIND SURVIVE?





plain truth

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If you and I were discussing the matter of *what subject* I ought to write about in this month's *Personal*, and you should say, quite seriously, "In view of the deadly seriousness and the *urgency* of this time, I think you should write on *the most urgent problem in all our lives right now* — the question of *whether*, and *how*, we may survive" — then I would agree.

The one BIG QUESTION in all our lives, right now, is that of human SURVIVAL!

But I hasten to add, survival *alone* IS NOT ENOUGH! We must have survival in PEACE, in happiness, in joy, in prosperity and plenty, and in abundant well-being for ALL!

And that's a pretty big order! If anyone has the answer, for the sake of humanity he'd better speak out! I am prepared to give the ANSWER — and it is going to be PLAIN SPEAKING, without pulling any punches! It's *time* for PLAIN SPEAKING! You are *betting your life* on someone coming up with the right answer!

To get to the crux of the problem immediately, realize first that these existing conditions and evils are merely the EFFECT! For every effect, there has to be a CAUSE. Our problem of immediate urgency is to find the CAUSE, not only of present evil conditions, but also of what is the not-being-used CAUSE of peace, happiness, and abundant well-being!

If we are going to learn that CAUSE, we need first to ask: What has made MAN as he is? How did humanity come to be on this earth? Or, going back even further, how did the earth, itself, come to *be*?

That may seem like going a long way back. But this futile search for PEACE goes a long way back — as far as history goes — or farther. Man's troubles, evils, and wars extend back to the beginning — or prior to the beginning — of history. To find the right answer, we need to go back even to PRE-history! That takes us even to the question of ORIGINS — of

Personal from...



THE KEY TO HUMAN SURVIVAL

BEGINNINGS! And we shall come to the right answer quicker by beginning at the beginning!

Many scientists have devoted their lifetimes to researching and studying this question. Yet is it not significant that their studies, theories, and hypotheses *fail to tell us* WHY man is as he is, or HOW he got that way, WHY he is always in trouble, WHY humanity is harassed with so many evils, and WHY these evils are fast increasing?

This is no light matter. Ignoring humanity's present dilemma will not cause it to go away. Human SURVIVAL hangs in the balance! We need the *right* answer — and we need it NOW!

The Origin of Modern Science

The fruits of the speculative assertions of science have not been peace, happiness, universal prosperity, and abundant well-being. The world, instead, is SUFFERING! It is very sick!

To come to a knowledge of the RIGHT ANSWER, we need to understand what is wrong with the scientific method.

The world has had science, of a kind, for a very long time. But what we know as MODERN SCIENCE began its dramatic rise roughly 170 years ago. Even then, the new knowledge in the fields of science and technology developed very slowly.

Until this advent of modern science, the world had gone along for thousands of years virtually on an even keel. It was primarily an agricultural world, using primitive farming methods. The cast iron plow was not invented until 1797. The disc plow was not invented until 1896, when I myself was alive and a growing boy. The first harvester came in 1836.

Abraham Lincoln once explained how mechanical and industrial progress could not develop until the invention of printing, about 1450. Even so, there was not much development in printing until the beginning of the 19th century.

Think of it! Through those long millennia the world was virtually without means of transportation or communication! Transportation on land was by foot, mule, horse, camel, elephant or in vehicles drawn by these animals. By sea, it was by slow-moving sailboat. Fulton didn't invent the steamboat until 1803. And the telephone, to provide communication, did not arrive until 1876. The telephone was in its infancy when I was a boy.

In my own lifetime, we have whipped past the machine age, the jet age, the nuclear age, and the space age. Much of the acceleration of inventions was stimulated first by the printing press, which made pos-

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MAJOR SHIFTS ON THE WORLD SCENE



SHORT-LIVED SMILES. Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko, right, and Japanese Prime Minister Miki chat amicably in mid-January — just days prior to Japan's decision to conclude a peace treaty with China.

Healing Historic Wounds

TURKEY BOLSTERS TIES WITH THE SOVIET UNION

Uncertainty in its relations with the West is moving Turkey toward friendlier ties with its long-time adversary, the Soviet Union.

As a result of the sudden U.S. arms embargo levied against Turkey last year, Turkish officials no longer feel they can be assured of support from their distant American allies in the event of any future military confrontation with the U.S.S.R. Taking a cue from the U.S., they have therefore begun engaging in a bit of their own détente-making in an attempt to ease tensions with their giant neighbor to the north.

Congress cut off arms aid to Turkey in February 1975 when Ankara used American weapons in its invasion of Cyprus. This was a sharp blow to the primarily American-equipped Turkish army. In retaliation, Turkey closed down some 26 U.S. bases in the country last July, including sensitive U.S. listening posts which eavesdropped on the southern Soviet Union.

Although the U.S. ban on arms shipments was relaxed last October, Turkey has failed to reopen the bases. It is generally believed it will not do so until Congress promises military grants and credits to Turkey for 1976, which thus far has not been done.

History of Antagonism

Turkey and the Soviet Union, who share a 380-mile frontier, possess a centuries-long history of confrontation and war. It was not until 1923 that Kemal Ataturk — whose revolt in that year had founded the Turkish Republic on the ashes of

Moscow Rebuffed

JAPAN AND CHINA FORGE CLOSER LINKS

Despite heavy diplomatic pressure from the Soviet Union, Japan decided in mid-January of this year to finally conclude a peace treaty with Russia's arch-rival China, formally ending World War II. The move signifies a much closer relationship between Japan and the People's Republic in the years ahead.

The Japanese were on the verge of signing a similar pact with the Soviet Union, but rejected the idea after a heavy-handed last-minute visit by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko. The Japanese felt that Gromyko's purpose was to drive a "wedge" between Japan and China. Ironically, what Gromyko succeeded in doing was to drive a wedge between Japan and Russia. The Japanese have now abandoned their traditional "policy of equidis-

tance" whereby they tried to maintain equally good relations with both Moscow and Peking.

The Soviet Union is particularly irked at a part in the text of the treaty which binds both Japan and China to resist any attempt on the part of a third nation (meaning, obviously, the Russians) to achieve "hegemony" (or domination) in Asia. This means that both Japan and China are now on record as opposing Soviet expansion in Asia and the Pacific.

And there are several indications that the Soviet Union indeed does have such plans. Continuing pressure on the Chinese border, increased Soviet naval strength in the Pacific, the economic development of Siberia, and Brezhnev's proposed security pact for all of Asia have

(Continued on page 5, col. 2)

the Ottoman Empire — and Vladimir Lenin signed a treaty of friendship and nonaggression.

But following World War II, the Kremlin denounced the pact and Stalin demanded territorial concessions in eastern Turkey, and even more important, a Soviet base on the Dardanelles — part of that narrow passageway which provides the Soviet navy with its only outlet from the Black Sea into the strategic Mediterranean.

As a result of those Soviet pressures, Turkey eventually moved into the Western camp and, in 1952, became a member of the NATO alliance.

Following two decades of Cold War confrontation, Turkey and the Soviet Union began reestablishing contacts in the 1960s. Various development projects were initiated, including the large Iskenderun iron and steel combine and an aluminum factory at Seydisehir, north of the Taurus mountains.

In 1975, the Soviet Union backed Turkey in its confrontation with Greece over Cyprus, fearing Greek control of the island would turn it into a possible NATO "aircraft carrier."

Now, with problems in its relations with the United States and Western Europe (where Turkey is an associate member of the EEC), Ankara appears to be finalizing the process of reconciliation with the Soviets.

Former defense minister Hasan Isik, however, recently told the Turkish magazine *Outlook*: "The problem is not one of changing friends, but of expanding and enlarging friendships."

In December, Soviet Premier Alexi Kosygin paid a 4-day visit to the Turkish capital at Turkey's invitation. The meeting resulted in a promise that the two nations would sign a "political document on friendly relations and cooperation" at a high-level meeting in the near future. The final joint communiqué noted that the talks were in the "tradition of friendly cooperation established by Kemal Ataturk and Lenin."

Kosygin Visit

The communiqué also said that Premier Demirel and Turkish President Fahri Koruturk had accepted invitations to visit Moscow.

At home, however, Premier Demirel remains as adamantly opposed to domestic communism as ever. And as the Soviet Union still supports exiled Turkish communists, Demirel is still suspicious of the Kremlin's designs on Turkey.

Some Turks feel the Soviet Union's objective — dominance and, if possible, control over the Bosphorus-Dardanelles waterway — has not changed, only her tactics for achieving it. They believe the Kremlin is trying to woo Turkey away from the West, and if not into the Eastern camp, at least to a state of neutrality or "Finlandization."

Economics also plays a significant part in Turkey's superpower balancing act. With a balance of payments deficit of some £1.5,000m, Turkey desperately needs cash — from whatever source.

"I will do what is in my interests," Demirel asserted recently. "Is it only the United States, the European Investment Bank, the World Bank? No. Why be satisfied with the little they give?"

The Soviets have recently pledged over £500,000m worth of credits to Turkey.

Strategic Real Estate

Though Turkey insists that friendlier relations with the Soviet Union will not seriously affect relations with the United States, her current reassessment of relations with Washington may portend ominously for the future.

Sitting astride one of the world's most strategic waterways, which way Turkey leans in the future could be a critical factor both in East-West relations and big power diplomacy in the broad scope of Middle East affairs.

In any case, most observers feel that in the aftermath of last year's arms embargo, relations between Turkey and the U.S. will never be the same. □

Common Market Green Light

GREECE TO BECOME NUMBER TEN?

BRUSSELS: Negotiations to make Greece the tenth member of the European Economic Community should start as soon as possible. This was the decision made here in Brussels, the night of February 9, by the nine foreign ministers of the European Community. Their decision overrides the recommendation last month by the European Commission that Greece should undergo a prolonged period of structural change before being admitted.

Greece first applied for membership to the Community last year after shaking off its military dictatorship in 1974.

During the next few months, the committee of permanent representatives of the nine nations in Brussels will work out a negotiating mandate which will then be approved by the Council of Ministers, after which time formal negotiations will begin. They are expected to last for some time, perhaps two or three years.

There are a number of economic problems to be overcome, such as a relatively weak industrial base in Greece and the fact that a large segment of the population is still involved in agriculture. Nevertheless, the general feeling is that despite the economic problems, the political factor is more important. As Council of Ministers President, Gaston Thorn, said: "Politically they'll come in when they want; economically they'll come in when they can."

For years, *Plain Truth* has informed its readers that there would arise an end-time, ten-nation union in Europe which would eventually become a new superpower to rival both the United States and the Soviet Union. The new decision regarding Greece could be a significant move in such a development. □

New Report Forms "Building Block" for United Europe

by Ray Kosanke

BRUSSELS: "Europe is threatened, Europe is divided, and the greatest danger comes from her divisions. The hour has come to take action commensurate with the danger. . . . We can tomorrow build the greatest political formation and the greatest economic unit our age has seen. Never will the history of the world have known so powerful a gathering of free men."

The above quote was first made in the Hague in 1948 at the Congress of Europe that year. It was cited in early February this year by the man whom the nine heads of government of the European Economic Community chose to formulate a futuristic report on just how Europe should go about the process of union.

The man, Belgian Prime Minister Leo Tindemans, presented his final draft in January of this year after spending all of 1975 in Europe-wide consultations.

The wide ranging document calls for harmonization of existing national policies on a broad scale — from creation of a European armaments agency and a common energy policy to a wide range of social reforms.

Brandt to Run for Europe's "Super Parliament"

European reaction to the Tindemans' report runs the gamut from "excellent," "pragmatic," "workmanlike," and "worth discussing" to "incomplete," "too conservative," "just another report," and "a plan [which will] just create conflict."

In spite of such criticism, the European Movement — which has long sought European unification under such leaders as Adenauer, Churchill, Schuman, Spaak, Monnet, and Jean Rey — seized on the Tin-

demans' report in February of this year at its Council of Europe meeting in Brussels to promote Tindemans' efforts and to add both a timetable and a procedure for accomplishing European union over the years ahead.

The political basis for a united Europe was given major impetus at the February meeting when former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt announced his candidacy for the European Parliament when it holds its first-ever Europe-wide popular election two years from now. (Delegates are presently appointed by the governments of the nine member nations.)

An Independent Military

Rather startling, the European Movement's draft declaration stated that the action proposed by the Belgian prime minister relating to the formation of a common foreign policy and a European defense effort "must be decided and implemented as early as 1976."

While such an achievement is hardly a possibility this year unless Europe is suddenly and dramatically threatened from without, steps are being taken which will see Europe with an increasingly independent defense structure with every month that passes.

An "Independent European Group" has just been established at a meeting in Rome of the ten European NATO countries plus France. "Without interfering in national responsibilities," the group is supposed to harmonize national arms equipment plans, reach agreements on joint military projects, and eliminate overlapping in the production of European armaments.

While similar efforts are being made within the official NATO structure as well, this European group has been set up to be independent of NATO and of the United States — primarily to allow France to get in on the act of a European defense effort. At present, internal French politics have made any such moves within NATO or in conjunction with the Americans impossible. The IEG is trying to get around that.

Even as the IEG was being set up at the Rome meeting, back in Brussels Belgian Defense Minister Paul Vanden Boeynants came out with a speech clearly designed to promote European military unity while moving away from dependence on the United States for military security:

"Europe can no longer satisfy itself by trusting the Americans. . . . What will become of us if the United States' nuclear umbrella were to disappear tomorrow? We'd be in real trouble. Europe must unite not only politically but also militarily. It is a necessity for our security." □

Excerpts from the Tindemans Report

Leo Tindemans, 53-year-old prime minister of Belgium for the last two years, was commissioned by the other heads of government of the European Common Market to prepare single-handedly the latest study and recommendations on the future of European unity.

The following are the principle conclusions and recommendations advanced by Mr. Tindemans on January 7, 1976 in his 41-page report entitled "European Union: Report to the European Council."

• **Europe's Vulnerability**

"During my visits [around Europe preparing the report] I was struck by the widespread feeling that we are vulnerable and powerless. This is a new experience for our peoples in recent history. . . . What weight do isolated voices have unless they are those of the superpowers?"

• **Why Europe Must Unite**

"For thirty years the relative weight and influence of our states in the world have been continually reduced. . . . Both internally and externally, the room for maneuver of the individual states has decreased.

"The construction of Europe is the only all-inclusive answer to this challenge. . . . It is the only answer which seeks everywhere to regain some of the control and power which is slipping from us, and to enable us to build the society in which we want to live.

"At a time when unemployment and inflation are rampant in all our countries, where everyone questions the causes of the weakness of our economic and political structures, and when the prosperity of Europe depends on factors outside our control, the European effort must . . . shape a more just society in which our common values are observed so that we can make our voice heard in the world with the power of our union behind it."

• **Relations With America**

"The need for Europe to speak with one voice in its relations with the United States is one of the underlying reasons for the construction of Europe. A constructive dialogue between the European union, conscious of its identity, and the leading Western political, economic, and military power, is necessary without delay."

• **Major Work Yet to Be Done**

"European union will not be complete until it has drawn up a common defense policy."

"There is [presently] no agreement on how to achieve a common

JAPAN AND CHINA

(Continued from page 2)

signaled to the Japanese that the Soviets have hopes of pushing their influence eastward.

Another reason why the Japanese have turned away from Moscow and now look to Peking is the refusal on the part of the U.S.S.R. to return a number of former Japanese islands which came under its control as part of the Yalta agreement after World War II. (Ironically, the czar had officially repudiated any Russian claim on the islands years before.) The Russians insisted from the beginning that return of the islands was "nonnegotiable." Two exceptions were held out: If Tokyo would sign with the Russians and remove American bases from the Japanese mainland, then the Soviets would give back two of the lesser, nonstrategic islands which the Japanese claim. The Japanese gave this ill-disguised attempt to reduce American influence in Asia a cool reception.

economic and monetary policy, nor is there even any sustained discussion of the subject. And yet this is a basic requirement for achieving a European union."

• **No Progress Without Will to Act**

"The belief that the union is vital and necessary will enable us to overcome conflicts of interest and differences of opinion. Only the will to achieve union can give the necessary powers to the common institutions. Without this political kiss of life the institutions of the union will always lack substance and force."

• **If Europe Doesn't Unite**

"What price would we pay for inaction? The crumbling away of the Community, voices isolated and often going unheard in the theatre of the world, increasingly less control over our destiny, an unconvincing Europe without a future." □

Another problem for the Russians was their own diplomacy. The Japanese complained that the Russian diplomats with whom they had to negotiate were awkward, rude, and secretive. Furthermore, even while the talks were being conducted, Russian vessels continued to shoot at Japanese fishing ships in the northern Pacific, and Russian aircraft continued to fly over remote areas of Japanese territory.

The upshot of all this is that the era of Japan's traditional "soft line" toward the Soviet Union appears to be over. And in its place comes friendlier contacts with Peking.

The origins of Japan's better relationship with China began in 1972 with President Nixon's famed trip to Peking. After that time, the Japanese followed the American lead of both "détente" with the Soviet Union and closer ties to the People's Republic of China. But Japanese relations improved much more rapidly with China than they did with Russia.

Then came the discovery of oil in China. Contrasted with the frozen wastes of Siberia, Chinese oil is relatively easy to extract. The Japanese have only been too eager to sell sophisticated drilling equipment to China and hope to someday tap the mainland as a source of oil.

Japanese-Chinese trade has boomed during the past several years. Last year the Japanese sold over £1200 m. in industrial hardware to the People's Republic, making China Japan's best Asian customer.

Japanese Prime Minister Takeo Miki is known to favor strengthened ties to China. In fact, as a young politician in the 1930's, Miki actively opposed Japan's attack on China at a time when such a stand made him liable to assassination.

In a world where the big power alliances are constantly fluid and the geopolitical winds of change are continually blowing, the prospect of finding the two great Oriental powers entwined in a major alliance is not at all an unlikely possibility in the years to come. □

POLAND'S CHURCH

Challenge to Communist Regime

by G. O. Marx

WARSAW: In recent years Poland has witnessed a remarkable transformation in the relationships between church and state. It is one communist country where two opposing ideologies have learned to co-exist.

Confrontation between the Catholic Church and the Communist regime had constituted for so long an essential part of post-war policy. But now the ideological hatchet has been buried.

The *modus vivendi* has served to lessen both the state's former frontal attack on the church and the church's overt criticism of the state. "There is no church-state struggle at the moment," is the way one senior Warsaw government official worded it.

Mutual Co-existence

This mutual co-existence has given the church a relatively free hand to preside over her interests in this country. With 96 percent of the population adhering to the Catholic faith, of which 80 per cent consider themselves devout, the church in Poland is not faced with a dwindling decrease in attendance — as is the case in many Catholic areas in the West.

In this country, the Catholic Church constitutes the most powerful religious body anywhere in the communist world, at times referred to as "the other government in Poland." Her unique position allows the church to significantly influence government policy.

Religion constitutes an important aspect of Polish life, both historically and culturally. This becomes obvious to the visitor when seeing the many crucifixes and madonnas encased in roadside shrines dotting the countryside. Once each year, the city of Czestochowa becomes the Mecca for devout Catholics as they

take part in the religious processions so reminiscent of Lourdes.

Ironically, the Catholic Church has made great strides since the advent of communism in Poland, growing from 8,500 parish priests in 1941 to well over 11,000 today. Seminaries number around 50 with an additional Academy of Catholic Theology in Warsaw, which is even subsidized by the government — partly for political reasons. The Church publishes about 60 Catholic newspapers and runs several publishing houses. The extent of Catholic influence is seen by the fact that the Roman Catholic Church in Poland numbers 32 million souls, whereas the atheistic Society for the Propagation of Secular Culture numbers less than 350,000. The list of annual holidays in Poland reveals a similar pattern. Four are religious festivals, two are general and only one is political in nature.

When Communists Attend Church

One particular survey shows that 77 per cent of Catholics attend mass weekly, while 70 per cent of Warsaw's university students are practising Catholics, including a large percentage of university teachers and professors, even government officials. A far cry from yesteryear, when practising Catholics were relegated to second class status. An astonishing 95 per cent of all children are baptized and receive religious instruction, including the children of many leading party members. In years past, some communist officials would secretly take their newborn children to another village or town to have them baptized, in this manner hoping to forgo identification. But today, these clandestine methods are no longer necessary. There is little if any stigma for even party members having their offspring baptized.

Article 70 of the 1952 Constitution seems to give the Catholic Church practically an open door when it states that Poland "guarantees freedom of conscience and religion to citizens. The church and other religious bodies may freely exercise their religious functions. It is forbidden to coerce or prevent citizens from taking part in religious activities or rites. It is also forbidden to coerce anybody to participate in religious activities or rites."

Religious Freedom Moderated

This freedom does not, however, give the church *carte blanche* control of its own affairs. There are restrictions. The state always remains the final authority on important matters, although it has given its pledge to consider the church's view on all essential issues.

In spite of church/state rapprochement, points of friction do exist. The government does not allow any religious teaching in the state-run schools. The church must also check with the government before getting state blessing for nominations to senior ecclesiastical posts. Even following approval, the communist authorities reserve the right to rescind the decisions up to three months thereafter. The state also gets a cut from church members' donations, and the church often finds it difficult to receive speedy approval to build more churches to cater to the increase in membership.

The main bone of contention, however, centres around the Catholic Church's wish to be the sole representative in training the young in moral teaching. In many villages, religious classes are held by the church, but primarily after school hours, and often with a 100 per cent attendance. Whereas the state has given up hope of dissuading the old and middle-aged from practising religion, communist leaders have not thrown in the towel where the young are concerned. With 50 per cent of the population born in the last 25 years, government officials yet hope that indoctrinating Polish youth with Marxist-Leninist education, where religion is put in a bad

light, will eventually lead to an acceptance of communist ideology.

Although it is too early to give an accurate assessment indications are that the current trend in this direction is not all that encouraging for the government.

Visit From Pope?

For some years now, rumours have persisted that the country is to receive a visit from the Pope. Such a development would enhance the prestige of the Catholic Church in

Poland immensely. It would serve as a tremendous morale booster for the population in this most Catholic country in the world. Paradoxically, the leaders would also welcome a papal visit, since it would be interpreted by them as tacit approval of Poland's communist government.

In the meantime, Poland's two opposing ideologies continue their co-existence, all the while striving to maintain and extend their respective control over the people. □

CRUCIAL RED SEA LOCATION—NEW RIVALRY ON THE HORN OF AFRICA?

by Melvin Rhodes

SALISBURY, Rhodesia — The re-opening of the Suez Canal has reaffirmed the importance of the French territory of the Afars and Issas to the Western alliance. With its capital and port city Djibouti overlooking the southern entrance to the Red Sea, its strategic location is of great interest to Ethiopia, Somalia, Western Europe and the U.S.S.R.

Only twenty years ago, the Suez Canal, Red Sea and Gulf of Aden fell firmly in the sphere of Western influence. Arab and African nationalism have dealt savage blows to Western powers in the interim.

At the very time when the Soviet Union is expanding its naval presence in the area and consequently its influence, this June France is lowering the flag, like a final curtain, on the last European colony of Africa and on Western influence in the area.

After independence, France intends maintaining a military base in the area. How long that will last is anybody's guess, but precedent suggests a few years.

The vacuum will most likely be filled by the Soviet Union, and already, neighbouring pro-Soviet Somalia is making rumblings about a future annexation of her diminutive

neighbour, exploiting the ethnic divisions in the territory.

The French intend imposing a minority government upon the people. Representing the pro-French and pro-Ethiopian Afars tribe is the National Independence Union (U.N.I.) of Mr. Ali Aref Bourhan. Unfortunately the party commands little support outside of its own tribe, which accounts for only 30% of the territory's population.

The Somali-backed opposition African Popular Independence League represents the larger Issas tribe, accounting for 50% of the nation's people.

France's backing of Bourhan emphasises her desire to maintain some form of influence in the area, and keep the Soviet Union out. But, by aiming to keep a Western influence in the strategically and economically important port of Djibouti, they may just invite another African conflict.

Somalia has long been Russia's major ally in Africa, enjoying the advantage of all the latest military hardware from Moscow. Much of this is now moving up to Djibouti's border.

The Somali build-up places Ethiopia in a dilemma. Not only are ethnic and religious ties with the Afars at stake. Djibouti provides Ethiopia with its major outlet to the

sea, an increasingly important outlet as a civil war in Ethiopia's province of Eritrea has hampered the use of her own ports. And Ethiopia, her hands already full in Eritrea, lacks the resources to fight a costly war with Somalia over Djibouti.

A French military departure could mean a Somali victory in the area. The real victor, though, would be the Soviet Union. Already possessing a big base in the Somali port of Berbera, and naval facilities across the Gulf of Aden in Yemen, Soviet dominance of Djibouti through Somalia would clinch the area for Africa's newest colonial power — the U.S.S.R.

Ironically the independence of Europe's latest African colony comes in the same year as Russia — the only major European power never to possess African colonies — makes her greatest gains on that continent.

West Europeans are increasingly concerned over these Soviet gains. As Belgian Defence Minister Paul Vanden Boeynants stated: "The Soviet Union has a new beachhead in Africa today. When you hold Angola, you hold the Cape route. Sixty per cent of Europe's oil supply uses this route."

French President Giscard d'Estaing reflected the same concern: "There is a problem today in the conduct of European policies. The problem is the absence of a European political capacity, and the great question is whether Europe will be able to develop that capacity."

While Europe searches for a new foreign policy, it remains to be seen whether France will support the freedom of her former territory, or whether like other Western powers have done on the African continent, beat a hasty retreat before the onslaught of Soviet military might.

Djibouti lies on a major west European trade route, overlooking the entrance to the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden, an area fast becoming a scene of great-power rivalry. At stake is not only the independence of a new nation, but a traditional trade route of Western Europe and the freedom of the seas. □

ATLANTIS NOW TO BE FOUND IN THE BAHAMAS?

by Clarence S. Bass

History abounds with stories of people looking for the lost continent of Atlantis. And it is strange how the idea of a lost continent has persisted when really there is not that much historical evidence to suggest that it ever did exist.

Curiously enough, the latest search for Atlantis is taking place in the area of the Bahamas.

But first, back to ancient history (or mythology).

There was a legendary island in the Atlantic Ocean, first mentioned by Plato. He represented it as being larger than Asia Minor and Libya combined and said it was situated just beyond the "Pillars of Hercules [Straits of Gibraltar]."

According to Plato, beyond it lay an archipelago of lesser islands from which one could pass to the whole of the continent which lay opposite it. Warriors from this land were supposed to have overrun the lands bordering the Mediterranean.

Plato's description of the people of this legendary land is reminiscent of the Greek idea of the Golden Age. The following account is from Plato's *Critias*.

"For many generations, as long as the divine nature lasted in them, they were obedient to the laws and well affectioned toward the gods, who were their kinsmen; for they possessed true and in every way

great spirits, practicing gentleness and wisdom in the various chances of life and in their intercourse with one another. . . . But when this divine portion began to fade away in them, and became diluted too often and with too much of the mortal admixture, and the human nature got the upper hand, then they, being unable to bear their fortune, became unseemly, and to him who had an eye to see, they became base and had lost the fairest of their precious gifts; but to those who had no eye to see the true happiness they still appeared glorious and blessed at the very time when they were filled with unrighteous avarice and power. Zeus, the god of gods, who rules with law, and is able to see into such things, perceiving that an honorable race was in a most wretched state, and wanting to inflict punishment on them that they might be chastened and improve, collected all the gods into his holy habitation, which, being placed in the center of the world, sees all things that partake of generation. And when he had called them together, he spake as follows:" And at that point Plato's dialogue stops.

The legend of Atlantis is extant in the folklore of several races, from Gibraltar to the Hebrides. As the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* (11th edition) states under the article "Atlantis": "The island was variously identified with America, Scandinavia, the Canaries and even Palestine; ethnologists saw in its inhabitants the ancestors of the Guanchos [aboriginal inhabitants of the Canary Islands], the Basques or the ancient Italians; and even in the 17th and 18th centuries the credibility of the whole legend was seriously debated and sometimes admitted, even by Montaigne, Buffon and Voltaire."

Today, Dr. David Zink, literary historian and professor of English at Lamar State College of Technology, Beaumont, Texas, is convinced that a site in the Bahamas near the island of Bimini has special significance. Dr. Zink believes the stones (of Bimini Road) are evidence of a megalithic (large stone) site of great

antiquity and that there are indications of a "sacred geometry" similar to that which has been suggested by recent studies of Stonehenge in England.

Dr. Zink holds a hypothesis that these huge slabs are remains of the legendary Atlantis and that the site can be placed in a pattern of similar megalithic sites around the world. He theorizes that these sites indicate the existence of a high civilization on earth before the dawn of our era.

One interesting discovery made by Dr. Zink last summer was a small slab with a sophisticated tongue and groove feature. It was composed of a mixture of sandstone and limestone not native to the Bahamas. It was not related to any area culture.

In his search for Atlantis, Dr. Zink utilizes information from psychics to initiate field research. American seer Edgar Cayce is said to have predicted that Atlantis would be found in the waters of Bimini in 1968 or 1969. It was about that time, said Zink, that Dr. J. Manson Valentine, a Florida marine expert, announced he had found something unusual in the Bahamas. The Cayce Foundation has given Dr. Zink a research grant, hoping that Cayce's prediction can be fulfilled.

However, the National Geographic Society concluded in an early report that the formations were natural and has refused to consider a research grant for Dr. Zink unless he can prove otherwise.

Whether one believes Dr. Zink has really found something or is merely seeking to fulfill a prophecy, it has to be acknowledged that searching for the lost continent is not just a fanciful idea. Noted explorer and diver Jacques Cousteau, who also hopes to solve the legend of Atlantis, is reported to be searching for Atlantis in the Aegean Sea, near the Island of Thera.

One must hope that someone will come by enough evidence to produce some solid conclusions which will enable mankind, once and for all, to either accept or lay to rest eternally the idea of a lost continent. □

HUMAN SURVIVAL

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WILL MANKIND SURVIVE THE 20th CENTURY?

The frequency and urgency with which this unsettling question is being discussed in scientific and political circles is indicative of the unprecedented age in which we live.

Uncontrollable crises seem to be zeroing in on the peoples of the world. Dwindling food supplies, soaring populations, mass starvation, rampaging inflation, monetary chaos, energy crises, resource competition, political disarray, wars and threats of wars, arms races, nuclear proliferation,

terrorism, soaring crime, moral decay, weather upsets, pollution, and natural disasters all seem to defy solution by anything short of a new world order.

In the past, many of these problems seemed to be unrelated to each other. Now they form a perverse, interconnecting web — the “solu-

tion” to any one of them often compounding the severity of several others.

According to George Wald, a 1967 Nobel Laureate in physiology and medicine: “It is a dreadful truth, hard to live with. . . . Human life is now threatened as never before, not by one but by many perils, each in itself capable of destroying us, but all interrelated, and all coming upon us together. I am one of those scientists who does not see how to bring the human race much past the year 2000.”

Many find it difficult to consider
(Continued on page 16)

Credits, clockwise beginning left: Bundesbildstelle; Wide World; CTK; UPI; UPI; H. Armstrong Roberts



THE GRIM SPECTRE OF TOTAL WAR

"Mankind must put an end to war — or war will put an end to mankind. Together we shall save our planet — or together we shall perish in its flames."

— President John F. Kennedy, 1961

by Donald D. Schroeder and George Ritter

The greatest arms race in history is spiraling dangerously out of control. Nations are talking peace while sharpening their swords for war.

Just since the end of 1973, the Middle East has become a huge armed camp. Africa has become an arms dump as major powers pour modern weapons into Angola, Somalia and Uganda. The superpowers continue to add both costly complex conventional hardware and supersophisticated nuclear weapons and delivery systems to their arsenals. What wonder-weapons may be

on the drawing boards is anyone's guess.

Nuclear Pandora's Box Opened

Arms control officials decry the fact that weapons of mass destruction are about to burst out of the privy possession of a handful of major powers. In the wake of the oil crisis, nuclear power plant orders and construction are booming. As a byproduct, twenty to thirty nations will have the capability of producing nuclear bombs in just ten years.

Communist China sporadically explodes nuclear devices in its race

to overcome military inferiority to the Soviet Union. India has already detonated a Nagasaki-sized "peaceful device." Israel is thought to possess the components for as many as a dozen atom bombs. Egypt, Argentina, Brazil, and South Africa are on the nuclear threshold. Spain, Japan, South Korea, Australia, and other industrially advanced nations could join the nuclear club any time political leaders decide it is expedient.

Recently, Brazil's president said, after negotiating for the "complete nuclear fuel cycle" from West Germany, that "if the explosives are

WARS AND RUMORS OF WARS

"The world's major powers are technically at peace. But at least a dozen shooting wars, large and small, are in progress around the globe — including some that have been going on since the 1940s. The battlefields are scattered across Europe, Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Middle East, and the death toll is in the millions."
— UPI, Feb. 14, 1975

"[There were] 97 wars during the period 1945-69. The total duration of these conflicts exceeded 250 years, and there was not a

single day in which one or several wars were not fought somewhere in the world. The number of persons killed in action since 1945 amounts to tens of millions."

— art. "World Armaments and Disarmament",

Stockholm International Peace Research Institute Yearbook, 1975

"Five panelists at a Harvard-MIT arms control seminar said they believed nuclear war in some form will erupt before 1999."

— UPI, Nov. 2, 1975

"Retired Adm. Gene R. Lacerque told the U.S. Congress in September that the overkill capacity of the Soviet Union and

the United States has so increased that the combined raw megatonnage of both nations is equal to 1.2 million bombs of the type that destroyed Hiroshima"
— AP, Sept. 11, 1974

"From 1945 to 1970 the number of nuclear warheads in the U.S. strategic arsenal went from zero to about 4,000. From 1970 to mid-1975 the number [has] increase[d] to almost 10,000."

— *Scientific American*,
Nov. 1973

"A top strategy expert says the combination of improved weaponry and crumbling alliances has increased the likelihood of wars in the next 15 years."

— AP, Aug. 23, 1975

typified as peaceful, I think all countries should have the right to make them." Unfortunately, the difference between "peaceful" nuclear explosions for national development and those for military applications is, for practical purposes, nonexistent.

Caution and reason are being thrown to the winds in the race to "go nuclear." After India's home-grown A-bomb had exploded, the prime minister of neighboring Pakistan vowed: "We will eat leaves and grass, even go hungry, but we will have to get one of our own." The Shah of Iran commented in the wake of recent growing fears of nuclear proliferation: "If small nations arm themselves with nuclear weapons, Iran will seek possession of them sooner than you think."

Over 90 nations have signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. But it is rarely reported that any signatory nation can withdraw after 90 days notification. Complicating the situation is that key nations such as France, China, and Israel have never signed the NPT and are not bound by any agreement.

Hammering Plowshares into Swords

The proliferation of nuclear arms is by no means the only worry to arms control experts. They are also distressed over the large volume of conventional weapons being sold.

Whereas thirty years ago only *five* nations were in the position of being significant arms sellers, today over 30 nations are deeply involved in the highly competitive trade.

Since 1959 more than a dozen multilateral and bilateral arms control agreements have been concluded. In the same period world arms expenditures have more than doubled — from £48,000 m. to £120,000 m. this year. (The last figure incidentally is roughly equal to the entire income of the poorer half of mankind.) Fully one quarter of the world's scientific talent is devoted to making the art of warfare more deadly and sophisticated.

In 1952 the nations of the world spent £150 m. on foreign purchases

(Continued on page 13)

THE SILENT ARSENAL

Nuclear weapons are only part of man's mass annihilation arsenal. Other weapons, while not as ostentatious or spectacular as the H-bomb, can nevertheless be just as devastating.

Recently, Soviet Party General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev implied that the Soviet Union is on the verge of a technological breakthrough so revolutionary that "a serious danger arises of the creation of a weapon even more awesome than the nuclear one."

Brezhnev did not elaborate, but we are aware that a whole arsenal of potent "silent killers" is already in existence or is in the late stages of development. Some examples:

The Laser. At the top of almost everybody's list of new horror weapons is the laser. Powerful laser guns concentrating unbelievable amounts of energy into a narrow death ray traveling at the speed of light have already begun to revolutionize modern warfare. Pulses of over 100,000 million watts enable present developments of the invention to vaporize and obliterate almost anything in their path.

Neutron bombs. Unlike nuclear bombs, the neutron bomb has the capacity to kill men with a stream of deadly radiation, leaving machines and buildings undamaged. Weapons that "kill" but do not "destroy" look like they may already be a reality.

Nerve Gas. Minute quantities of nerve agents much like Sarin or VX gas can wreak incredible havoc, killing millions upon millions of unsuspecting human beings worldwide. Just one canister of the new generation of high potency nerve gas is estimated to be capable of killing 1000 million people.

Germ Warfare. Biological agents such as anthrax, brucellosis, tularemia, or exotic maladies such as glanders and melioidosis can inflict widespread decimation on the human population. For example, one agent known as Q fever is considered to be so deadly that less than ten ounces, if properly dispersed, could potentially kill all of humanity.

Chemical fireballs. A new generation of incendiary weapons is being developed which produces "chemical holocausts" radiating thermal energy second only to that of an atomic bomb.

Earthquake stimulation. The science of earthquake prediction and control may be turned into a new kind of warfare — triggering massive earth tremors in susceptible areas.

Sound rays. Electro-acoustical advancements in sound pulsations have demonstrated that humans can be totally disoriented by inaudible infrasound. If they were further developed, sound rays may become a further novel method for human destruction.

Weather Warfare. New discoveries in the control of the environment may bring whole populations under the curse of man-caused weather catastrophies. Torrential rains or searing droughts could devastate wide areas; changes in the ozone layer could also bring about the decimation or destruction of all life on earth.

Other new weapons could also be cited, but surely the laser and the neutron bomb are prime candidates for fulfilling the enigmatic prophecies in the book of Revelation which seem to describe a strange new class of sophisticated weaponry. □

DISARMAMENT—THE DISMAL RECORD

The efforts for world disarmament go back to the turn of the century. The Hague Conferences of 1899 and 1907 outlawed expanding (dum-dum) bullets and codified the laws of war on land and sea in an attempt to "humanize" warfare.

After World War I, one of the 14 major points proposed by U.S. President Woodrow Wilson and accepted by participants in the peace treaty provided that "national armaments will be reduced to the lowest point consistent with domestic safety."

The period between the two world wars bustled with concerted attempts to achieve disarmament goals. In 1928, almost all nations renounced "aggressive war" in the Kellogg-Briand Pact.

The Washington Naval Treaty of 1922 and the London Naval Conference of 1930 sought to limit the number of warships maintained by big powers. The League of Nations founded many commissions that led to the 1932 Disarmament Conference in Geneva.

Governments during the thirties attempted to achieve disarmament by reducing the calibre of naval guns, limiting certain heavy weapons, and outlawing the practice of bombing civilian populations. But none of the countless discussions led anywhere substantially.

All the talk of arms cutbacks was done with an eye to the development of new weapons. Agreements could be easily reached on outlawing obsolescent weapons — scoring good public relations points at the same time. Meanwhile, efforts could be devoted to *new* arms developments.

A perfect example was the limits placed on the number of battleships permitted each nation under the terms of the Washing-

ton Treaty of 1922. Huge capital ships were becoming obsolete; it was easy for all to agree to their scaled-down use.

In 1933 both Japan and Germany withdrew from the league, denounced previous arms limitations agreements and proceeded to massively rearm in preparation for the coming war.

In the early fifties President Eisenhower emphasized the urgency of gradual disarmament under the most stringent international controls. He said: "It had become clear, by 1953, that the accumulation of atomic weapons stockpiles, whose use could destroy civilization, made resorting to force an intolerable means for settling international disputes."

In the early sixties President Kennedy said: "The achievement of controlled disarmament is a necessity to guarantee world peace...."

Since then, a dozen major multilateral and bilateral treaties have been signed — most stipulating controls on the growth of, but not the dismantling of, nuclear weapons.

Weapons control talks continue, but no one is disarming. SALT II (not yet ratified by the U.S.) is designed to "put a cap on the arms race" until 1985. But instead of dampening the arms race it permits each side to build up in areas where it is weakest vis-à-vis the other — the United States throw weight, the Soviet Union in MIRVs and accuracy.

The SALT negotiations will also do absolutely nothing to stem the *qualitative* arms race among the two superpowers — the race to develop the means to deliver deadly payloads with greater accuracy.

"Events in 1974," reported the prestigious Stockholm Peace Re-

search Institute, "repeated the now familiar pattern of relatively rapid progress in military technology and little progress in attempts to control the nuclear and conventional arms races taking place across the globe."

The fact is that there is no diminution of the arms race because nations everywhere are still enslaved by fears, hatreds, prejudices and vanities of self-aggrandizing power.

President Lyndon Johnson said in a speech in 1965: "The guns, the bombs, the rockets and warships are all symbols of humanity's failure to find the way to true peace."

Professor Morgenthau summarized the entire historical legacy of disarmament failures as follows: "Men do not fight because they have arms. They have arms because they deem it necessary to fight. Take away their arms, and they will either fight with their bare fists or get themselves new arms with which to fight."

"What makes for war are the conditions in the minds of men which make war appear the lesser of two evils. In those conditions must be sought the disease of which the desire for, and possession of, arms is but a symptom. So long as men seek to dominate each other and to take away each other's possessions, and so long as they fear and hate each other, they will try to satisfy their desires and to put their emotions to rest."

His words are very close to the cause of war given clearly in the Bible: "What causes wars, and what causes fightings among you? Is it not your passions that are at war in your members? You desire and do not have; so you kill. And you covet and cannot obtain; so you fight and wage war..." (James 4:1-2, RSV). □

of conventional weapons. In fiscal 1974 they laid out £9,000 m. — a staggering 6,000% increase. The United States led the pace in sales with £4,000 m. in weapons (80% to the Middle East), followed by the Soviet Union, France, and Britain, the other three leading arms sellers.

While some nations such as the U.S. and Britain do impose limitations on arms sales to certain countries, many others happily sit on their political polarity and sell to anyone with cash, regardless of the customer's ideological stance. The latest figures indicate fiscal 1975-76 will be an even bigger boom year for the merchants of death.

Beyond Normal Comprehension

Living with superweapons of mass destruction for over 20 years has changed us. We have lost comprehension, in human terms, of the dangerous times in which we live.

We could comprehend the largest pre-nuclear bomb of World War II, the blockbuster, that could level a whole city block. It contained 10 tons of TNT. But how does one comprehend the destructive force of a 1 megaton bomb (1 million tons of TNT equivalent), or a 20 megaton or 50 megaton weapon? How does one grasp the fact that the power of all the bombs exploded in World War II can be contained in one weapon carried in the bomb bay of a single aeroplane?

It is senseless to debate whether mankind could be wiped out once, five or a hundred times over in an all-out nuclear war. We know every major city of the major powers is already targeted with a weapon or weapons that could wipe it off the map.

Gone are the days when it took a lumbering, four-engined B-29 bomber hours to deliver its lethal cargo. Now the job can be done in minutes by land or by sea. One U.S. Poseidon submarine with MIRV missiles can lob 160 warheads (each with 2½ times the destructive power of the Hiroshima bomb) at targets 3,000 miles away. Soviet land-based ICBMs, with 250 Hiroshima-type

(Continued on page 15)



Hendrickson — Plain Truth

Dr. Henry Kissinger:
"The Western world seems to be floating without power or rudder on a sea filled with destructive events."

French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing:
"The world is unhappy. Unhappy because it does not know where it is going and because it guesses that, if it knew, it would be that it is going toward a catastrophe."

Dr. W. H. Pickering:
"In half an hour the East and the West could destroy civilization."

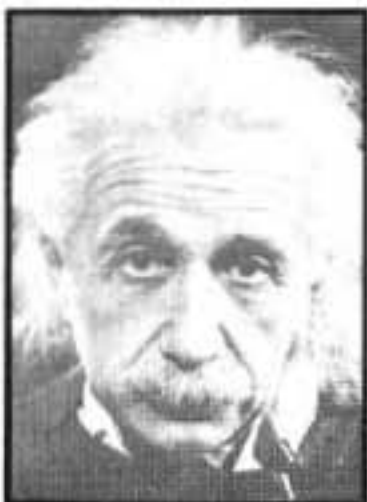
Dr. Robert Heilbronner:
"... nobody is equipped to deal with problems that are rushing in on us, from inflation to nuclear weapons."



Ewing Galloway

Gen. Douglas MacArthur:
"We have had our last chance. If we will not devise some greater and more equitable system, Armageddon will be at the door."

Adlai Stevenson:
"No physical peril greater than atomic war has confronted mortal man since the Flood."



Wide World

Dr. Albert Einstein:
"There is no defence in science against the weapons which destroy civilization."

Sir Bertrand Russell:
"Never since human beings first existed have they been faced with so great a danger as that which they have brought upon themselves by a combination of unrivaled skill and unrivaled folly."

Dr. Herbert York:
"The arms race is a steady open spiral downward toward oblivion."

WHAT PRICE OVERKILL?

Obsessed with the desire to be like the nations around them, the ancient Israelites demanded a king instead of the succession of theocratic judges who had previously governed them. The decision stemmed from their desire to rely upon their own resources, as distinct from the previous way of relying on God's direct guidance.

In futility the prophet Samuel warned them of the consequences of their decision. "And he said, This will be the manner of king that shall reign over you: He will take your sons, and appoint them for himself, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen; and some shall run before his chariots. And he will appoint him captains over thousands, and captains over fifties; and will set them . . . to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots" (I Samuel 8:11-12).

But the Israelites went ahead anyway and what they were soon to discover was that the attendant statecraft of making war is an expensive business, one which drains the resources of a community and lowers the general standard of living.

Three thousand years later we are still discovering the same thing. In the past thirty years, the U.S. has spent over £500,000 million on multifarious defence systems, largely the result of an arms race with the Soviet Union.

The grisly "balance of terror" which has evolved since World War II has progressively required greater military spending. Should one side develop a "first strike capability," that is, the means to wipe out the other side's nuclear weapons before those weapons could be used, the probable result would be a nuclear attack.

The latest and most contro-

versial publicly-known examples of American weapons technology are the Trident submarine and the B-1 bomber.

More than twice the size of the current Polaris submarine, the Trident will carry 24 missiles, each capable, with multiple warheads, of hitting over ten individually selected, pre-programmed targets. One submarine could theoretically destroy 240 cities! Each Trident submarine is expected to cost £800 m.

Each B-1 bomber will carry over 40 tons of weapons and be equipped with the most advanced electronics. Envisioned as a replacement for the aging fleet of 600 B-52s, each B-1, including tankers and other support equipment, could cost in the region of £38 million.

Because of the ways in which defence contracts are made, military spending has proved especially vulnerable to inflation. The "cost plus profit" method of defence procurement has given individual companies little incentive to cut costs — so, many subcontractors have an easy time pushing through increases.

As a result, the "cost overrun" has become a corporate way of life for some defence industries. The Trident was originally scheduled to cost £600 m., the B-1, £23 million.

One may assert that defence spending represents a good infusion of money to the economy as a whole, as defence industries employ more workers who in turn have more money to spend.

There is a serious fallacy in this argument. It fails to realize that, except for the purpose of war, no one would ever want a tank, a missile submarine, or a bomber. Not one of these items, of itself, would ever be desired by any-

body except for "defence" purposes. They add nothing in the way of enjoyable wealth to the private economy. Furthermore, the money, man-hours, and raw materials which go into building tanks and bombers could also go into building schools, theatres, furniture, or houses: items which *do* contribute to the total enjoyable wealth within the economy. War then, involves a tradeoff of finite resources. This means for every bomber, there are so many houses which are *not* built.

Here are some simple facts which show the incredible expense of modern warfare:

- The entire world spends more than £122,000 m. a year on military programs, enough money to give every man, woman, and child in the world over £300 a year. £300 a year — theoretically, of course — would allow a family of four in India or Bangladesh to eat at least as well as a middle-class American family.

- The estimated cost of what the Soviet Union spends on its military establishment — over £50,000 m. — would raise each Russian's standard of living by over twenty-five percent.

- The annual cost of America's total military spending, £55,000 m., would be enough to pay for a *total* environmental cleanup.

- The cost of just one Trident submarine would pay for more than 30,000 suburban homes at £25,000 each.

- The price of the C-5A aircraft program, £2,500 m., could eliminate all hunger in America.

The world is afflicted with a continual shortage of wealth and resources, a shortage exacerbated continuously by man's tragic tendency to war with himself. □

bombs each, can devastate cities one third of the way around the world.

Recently developed U.S. cruise missiles, launched from planes or submarines, can virtually hug the treetops to avoid detection and hit within yards of their pre-programmed targets.

The statistics on overkill are incomprehensible. The United States has a defense force that can deliver the equivalent explosive power of 2,400 World War II bombs or the equivalent power of 370,000 Hiroshima-sized bombs. Russia has the equivalent power of 4,000 World War II bombs or the power of 720,000 Hiroshimas at her disposal. The two superpowers can wipe out each other's civilization 100 times over, yet each month they add a few more weapons of mass destruction to their arsenals. The key, to the military men, is not just raw destructive force but the development of more reliable and accurate weapons and delivery systems.

The world needs more nuclear proliferation as much as it needs cyanide in every tea bag. The equivalent of fifteen tons of TNT for every man, woman, and child on the face of the earth is quite enough already.

The Unthinkable Now Thinkable

During the fifties and sixties we were told to console ourselves that nuclear weapons were so horrible and retaliation in kind so certain that no aggressor would dare start even a limited nuclear exchange. However after two decades of nuclear refinement, military strategy thinking is shifting: the "unthinkable" may be thinkable — even necessary.

According to this new reasoning a limited nuclear war with tactical nuclear weapons to stop an overwhelming conventional attack may not necessarily be a certain prelude to all-out war. "Mini-nukes" on short- or medium-range planes, land mines, rockets, howitzers and mortars already face each other across NATO and Warsaw Pact firing lines.

But a "limited nuclear exchange" anywhere in the world is playing

Arms control officials decry the fact that weapons of mass destruction are about to burst out of the privy possession of a handful of major powers. In the wake of the oil crisis, nuclear power plant construction is booming.

Russian roulette with the survival of all mankind.

Mankind on the Tightrope

With small as well as large nations strapping on their nuclear gunbelts one cannot help but feel apprehensive about the survival prospects for the human race.

Over 100 wars and conflicts — over 50 of them significant in size — have occurred since the end of World War II. A score are either flaring, simmering, or threatening to break out anew today.

How long will it be before the next local war in the Middle East turns into a nuclear war around the world? Even more chilling is the prospect of nuclear weapons falling into the hands of one or other of the more extreme terrorist groups. Which city would they hold for ransom? What government would they blackmail?

How long can nations of the world continue to live under such hair-trigger conditions before the gun goes off? Will the world indeed someday erupt into the ultimate doomsday war that could erase all life off this good green planet? Is World War III around the corner? And if it is, could we survive such a holocaust? Or will man find some way to live at peace among his own kind? In other words, can mankind put an end to war before war puts an end to mankind?

To quote Jesus Christ, we are liv-

ing in an age when we are hearing "of wars and rumours of wars." Yet in spite of the fact that the world is armed to the teeth with apocalyptic weaponry, not many realize the relevance of those words for today.

"Which Wars?"

Certainly there have always been wars. And certainly Christ's words had particular meaning for that day and age. Within a few short decades Roman legions under the command of Titus sacked, burned, and pillaged the city of Jerusalem.

But the Book of Revelation amplifies some of Christ's prophetic statements. The four horsemen of the apocalypse often feature prominently in the news media today as tokens of the dangerous times in which we live. In its Biblical context the red horse of Rev. 6:4 depicts war, for its gruesome rider is divested with power to disrupt world peace that "men should kill one another."

This was not speaking about the fall of Jerusalem. That war was already some twenty years past at the time this was written. It is speaking of a time when peace is taken from the *entire* earth — and that has all but happened only during this century, so far twice in two World Wars. Therefore if we are to accept the prophetic implications of the book of Revelation then we must realize that most of its contents could not have applied to any other century. Except in these modern times of mass population when could any single power have mustered the army of 200 million men pictured in chapter 9 verse 16?

A Decidedly Unconventional War

And if we accept this we must also accept that when chapter 9 goes on to describe warfare it is graphically depicting a grisly picture of the use of modern and futuristic horror weapons.

Imagine the scope given by such descriptions as locusts with the power of scorpions emanating from a smoking furnace able to torment and seriously maim mankind for long periods of time without ac-

tually incurring death. What weapons of diabolical malevolence could cause this? Is it referring to radiation sickness or perhaps the effects of germ warfare? It is almost impossible to ascertain exactly what is referred to, but it certainly wasn't the normal conventional warfare of the first century A.D.

With stark apocalyptic language the chapter goes on to describe that massive army of 200 million men. The fire-power of this incredible military machine, described simplistically as "fire, smoke and sulphur," has a genocidal capacity to slay a third of mankind.

Could this lethal smoke be radioactive fallout from future nuclear weapons? And could the fire be the thermal radiation effect?

Again, all we can do at this point is speculate on what could happen. But the end results speak for themselves — *one third of all humanity dead.*

It is no wonder that that most famous of all doomwatch prophets, Jeremiah, stated: "Alas, in all history when has there ever been a time of terror such as in that coming day? It is a time of trouble for my people — for Jacob — such as they have never known before" (Jer. 30:7).

Mankind's record is far from encouraging. If we are to rely on man to bring peace to this earth when he is forever increasing the potential for its complete destruction, it seems we must learn to have a far greater faith than it takes to believe Christ's words in Matthew 24: "For there will be persecution such as the world has never before seen in all it's history, and will never see again. In fact, unless those days are shortened, all mankind will perish. But they will be shortened for the sake of God's chosen people" (verses 21-22, Living Bible).

Unless God Almighty puts a sudden stop to man's misguided activities, Christ plainly states that the human race will not survive.

Thank God that He provided an "escape clause" guaranteeing the good news of human survival in an age when man appears to be rapidly heading toward extinction. □

MANKIND SURVIVE

(Continued from page 9)

the possibility that mankind may not make it past another generation. While religious prophetic warnings could be brushed aside in the past, the proliferation of doomsday warnings from the secular prophets of today strikes a hard blow to 20th century man's professed control of his destiny through modern science, technology, and "advanced" social institutions.

The voices of optimism about mankind's ability to solve his problems and guarantee his own survival are still heard in political and scientific circles. But the voices are becoming much more reserved and qualified. Science and technology alone, they say, cannot save us.

Mankind can survive, they say, if — and it's the most challenging "if" in the history of mankind — there is a rapid, radical change in the values and methods by which nations of the earth live. If the nations were to throw aside their narrow nationalistic and ideological interests and peacefully and unitedly work together with an international spirit of cooperation, then mankind would have a hope of providing the essentials of a better life for all and stand a chance of avoiding a cataclysmic World War III.

Past generations could, in one sense, "afford" disasters such as war, economic depression, starvation, weather upset, disease epidemics or pollution. Though millions suffered, much of humanity remained relatively unaffected.

No more. The future — indeed, even the present — is lived on an interdependent planet.

The overthrow of a government in a remote Third World nation virtually guarantees the involvement of major powers. Famines in overpopulated, underdeveloped countries strain the resources of the few remaining food exporting nations of the world. Increases in oil prices threaten the very economic and political stability of the world's industrial powers. Pollution, once thought to be of local or regional concern,

now is so widespread that the very life cycles of the world's oceans are threatened.

Meanwhile, mankind's "last hope for peace," the United Nations, has deteriorated into a hollow shell of noisy debate. Ideological feuds and power blocs now dominate the organization and fan the flames of conflicts rather than solve them.

All the curves are leading to world catastrophe unless there are some fundamental changes in mankind's approach to solving his big problems. But men and nations are still locked into age-old and little-changed divisive governmental, economic, social, military, and religious institutions and values. The Babylon of ideologies and the self-centered nationalistic thought-patterns foster endless international confrontations and threats of war. Only a miraculous change or intervention can save humanity from ultimate destruction.

In this continuing series of articles, *Plain Truth* will discuss the major crises challenging humanity's prospects for survival and the chances of mankind — of and by himself — surmounting them.

In this issue, we start with the most obvious and immediate threat to human survival: war and the worldwide arms race. Sophisticated weapons — guns, tanks, missiles, supersonic aircraft, and now nuclear technology and futuristic weapons, the armaments of Armageddon itself — are being thrust into every corner of the globe, including nations barely out of feudal or jungle states.

One thing is certain. Unless trends dramatically change, the world is heading pell-mell in the direction of the most dramatic of all biblical prophecies: "If those days had not been shortened, no human being would be saved..." (Matt. 24:22, RSV).

Yet there *is* hope for man as he heads toward the brink of cosmocide. But if he remains unwilling, and through his own puny efforts unable to avert the final disaster, that hope will be fulfilled only through the interventionary power of God. □

Our society has developed a blatantly open obsession with sex. Explicit sex comes at you in books, magazines, films, television. Whether you like it or not you can't avoid it. Western democracies are awash with pornography. In the last issue of *Plain Truth* we looked at some of the serious consequences to society of the smut boom. The exploitation and merchandising of sex is one of the biggest businesses of all time. The deployment of sex to get you to spend money on the "best" food, drink, clothes, cars, holidays — you name it — is a daily onslaught.

This sometimes subtle, sometimes blatant, but constant assault on the mind is having its effect in changing society. The full impact will be long term. The principal victims are the young and the impressionable. Tomorrow's generation is receiving an education in sex, morals and personal relationships by a process of contamination rather than instruction. The effect is the gradual development of a shallow, selfish, callous society where temporary gratifications replace stable relationships. We are talking about the ultimate break-down of the ability to sustain family life as we know it. In effect, we are talking about the erosion of the bedrock of society. It is not difficult to see the considerable results of this around us already.

Growing Promiscuity

One of the more immediate, tragic and yet little publicised results of the sensual society is the growing V.D. epidemic. There is an amazing ignorance on this subject today — not least among self-styled sex educators. Paradoxically in an age where we pride ourselves in knowledge, the vital area of sex education is neglected. Frequently, what instruction there is comes from amateurs, and the teaching of what often amounts to *mis-knowledge* is compounded by the total lack of instruction in an accompanying sense of *responsibility*.

The average parent today is in a predicament. Many don't have the confidence or understanding to educate their children in the critical

SOLVING THE SEX KNOWLEDGE VACUUM

by Gordon Muir & Barbara Eastwell

In this article a member of the medical profession and a member of the teaching profession make a plea for proper sex education in the right place — the home.



Warren Watson — Plain Truth

GETTING THE RIGHT sex instruction from the right source — which is the home — is essential, to old or young, married or single.

area of sexual and family relationships, but neither can they trust the "educators". And also, apart from this they are virtually powerless to prevent the corruption of their children through the commercially motivated sex-oriented merchandising of the media.

Yet worse is the knowledge that school and the classroom is far from a place of innocence and moral protection. Gone are the times when children simply gleaned their sex *knowledge* from the playground and the gutter. Nowadays that knowledge extends to increasing sexual

experience and promiscuity at an early age. Indeed, so bad has the situation become that due to increasing incidents of teenage pupils — particularly girls — making provocative approaches to their teachers, the National Union of Teachers in Britain has drawn up a new code of ethics including advice about seduction attempts.

The pressure is increased by the free availability of contraceptives. In Britain the Department of Health and Social Security supports free contraception and availability of the pill from puberty and has recom-

mended that contraceptives may be given to girls under sixteen without their parents' consent!

Add this to the approach of some kids that having sex is a badge of maturity or that girls need to get pregnant to prove themselves and you have the ingredients of disaster.

The seeming "plot" to create havoc in this area of essential knowledge is the more diabolical by virtue of the strange alliance of commercial interests with thinly disguised subversive elements. There is no doubt whatever that at least some of the gross miseducation in this field is deliberate. If the long term aim is to undermine democracy, then this area would have to be exploited and manipulated with a view to undermining one of the basic strengths of society, namely the stable family unit. For more information on this aspect of the problem, see last month's *Plain Truth* article on pornography. Suffice it here to quote journalist and literary editor Peter Grosvenor in the Longford Report: "Centuries of civilization is precisely what revolutionaries . . . do wish to destroy and they see a sexual revolution towards permissiveness as one powerful instrument in bringing this about."

Not all "intellectuals" engaged in promoting pornography and encouraging promiscuity are, however, Marxist revolutionaries. Some are just plainly ignorant, not fully realizing what they are doing. Others bear a grudge against family life because, as inadequate personalities, they are themselves incapable of building stable and meaningful relationships. This presumably impels them to attack what their own weakness denies them from having.

Many of the arts are today dominated by what educationalist David Holbrook calls a "schizoid minority." And it is the media they manipulate through which many of our attitudes to sex are shaped, and by which our children receive much of what they know. These "schizoid" intellectuals are not "ill" but neither are they emotionally mature. They cannot themselves qualify as "whole persons" and experience the deeper

Tomorrow's generation is receiving an education in sex, morals and personal relationships by a process of contamination rather than instruction. The effect is the gradual development of a shallow, selfish, callous society.

things of being human — namely relationships, and of course, love. They are able only to describe a mechanical type of involvement in which people are objects with mechanical parts. Attention is focused on the purely depersonalized function of the parts.

Psychotherapist Dr. Robert Shields, lecturer at the Institute of Education in London, recently told of a 13 year old girl who had been brought to a young person's contraceptive clinic run by the London Youth Advisory Service to have her hymen stretched in readiness for sex. He commented: "this kind of incident makes me believe that one can be too cretinously *avant garde*."

He believed it was a symptom of a society in which young people, though more physically healthy and materially advanced than ever, had been prevented from developing a sense of identity and were forced to use sex as a *defence against love*.

This is exactly the schizoid state we mentioned above. It is clearly anti-human, anti-feeling, and anti-love. And it is producing an amazing reversal in moral values.

The Approach in Schools

The mechanical approach to sex is often the one taken in sex education. To make matters worse, the professed educators don't always know very much about even that. One area of great ignorance is the direct link between promiscuity and venereal disease, and the real threat of a venereal disease epidemic. Already V.D. is as common as

measles. We will be highlighting some little known facts about venereal disease in the April issue of *Plain Truth* in the hope that it will bring some reality back to the promiscuity question.

Within what framework is sex education in schools likely to be tackled? This varies widely in different schools and different countries. It may be left to different departments to cover different aspects — e.g. Biology, Home Economics, Physical Education, and Modern Studies. This leaves the pupil trying to fit the various pieces together. Some schools are developing health education programmes in which sex-education is an integral part. This would commence in the upper stages of primary education and carry over into the secondary level. Undoubtedly such programmes *carried out by the right people* and carried on over a long period of time could be very effective. But when we find some of this teaching in the hands of what we have already described as "schizoid intellectuals" or those with Marxist tendencies, then the whole exercise is self-defeating. Often the problem is that teachers — even with the required integrity and maturity — have no training in this field. Iris Silwood, in an article "Who Teaches Health Education?" which appeared in the teachers' journal *Bulletin*, wrote: "Few practising teachers have any qualifications in this field. It is often somebody who has an interest in the subject and who teaches an allied subject such as Home Economics, Physical Education, or Biology. In some cases the job is given to a young teacher with very little experience or knowledge — but suitable free periods."

She cites an example: "One afternoon four sixteen-year-old girls came to me with personal problems. After their questions were answered I asked them whether they had taken Biology. Yes, they remembered reproduction, especially the anatomical names, *but this did not help with their problems; it had not got down to living!*"

Considering the inadequate if not

frightening state of sex education in schools, is there anything that parents can do? In Britain at least they have no statutory right to withdraw their children from unsatisfactory teaching in this field. This would in any case rebound on the children in other ways. They can make their feelings known to head teachers and local education authorities who are often very respectful of parents' wishes. Strong parent-teacher relationships would appear to be vital. In this way parents can have the most effective input as to what is taught and even who teaches. But there can be only one answer to the problem of miseducation in this field — the parents must take upon themselves the job of making sure their children receive a full education in all aspects — moral, emotional and physical — of sex. The parents must be the teachers.

Parents as Teachers

The real problem with sex education is that too much emphasis is placed on merely physical functions. There is a failure on the part of teachers, parents and youngsters to understand the power of sexual emotions and the way they fit into relationships with other people.

The best defence that children can have to today's almost irresistible sexual pressures is to understand the development process taking place in them and its purpose.

If for example a child has a problem with alcohol (which increasing numbers do today) the answer is not to give an education in brewing techniques, but to teach *responsibility* in the use and control of alcohol. It should be obvious that to provide children with responsible sex education requires something more than anatomy drawings, names of parts, and samples of contraceptives. It requires knowledgeable instruction in the *relational* aspects of sex by *mature* individuals *qualified* to do so. The average parent would probably be horrified to meet some of the "experts" who may be addressing their children on some of these vital matters. Experts perhaps like psychologist Maurice Yaffe, who recently defended films

To push away this one aspect of growing up and thrust it out of the door is to imply to the child that sex has no place in the home at all. Something is wrong with it if it cannot live under the same roof as the parents.

showing such things as women having intercourse with dogs, or the renowned Dr. Cole whose sex-education film *Growing Up* encourages children in masturbation and sexual experimentation.

It is precisely because so many "experts" are woefully *unqualified* that parents must undertake to educate their own children on this subject. Most parents would feel unequal to the task. That is beside the point. They *can* educate themselves to be able to do the job. They should be ready and willing to give honest answers to questions as soon as they arise. Never dodge the issues. The subject is so interesting that it can be made so to the child. If you don't know the answers to some awkward questions, find out — and take up the subject again immediately. These childhood questions are the foundation on which to build the child's knowledge. By the age of about nine or ten assess your child's knowledge on the subject and try to make good the defects.

To quote Dr. Roger Pilkington in the British Medical Association's booklet, *Fact of Life for Parents*: "the real purpose should be to help children to understand puberty and adolescence with all its surges and urges by showing them the real relationship between sex and birth on the one hand and human life and love on the other. These things are inseparable and no home can be stable and happy and free from strains where there is confusion about them."

As to a final reason why sex edu-

cation is a job for the home, Dr. Pilkington writes: "However excellent a school may be, it is not the place where a boy or girl is born. It is not the setting for the love that began their own existence, and when they are grown up and fall in love and marry, young people will set out to found another home, not another school. Besides, to push away this one aspect of growing up and thrust it out of the door and into the hands of others is to imply to the child that sex has no place in the home at all. Something is wrong with it if it cannot live under the same roof as the parents.

"Sex education belongs at home. It is involved in the whole pattern of relationships within the family and is part of the fabric of the love which has brought the home into being."

Consider the pressures brought upon your teenage son or daughter by the permissive environment in which we live. Who *should* be better able to protect young minds than the parents? But to do this it is absolutely essential to develop a close family bond — something pathetically lacking in the majority of homes. It is not even enough to simply involve the children in family activities and to give them time for open and frank discussion. The real goal must be to build up an absolute trust between father and son, mother and daughter. A trust that will enable a young girl to come home and openly admit to her parents that a boy friend has asked her to go to bed with him, and to seek advice on how to handle such a situation. For if such a complete bond of trust does not exist, who does the child have to turn to? For the sake of avoiding the embarrassment of having to instruct our children in anything to do with sex, is it worth losing a son or a daughter?

Proper sex education is more necessary today than probably at any time ever. Never have the destructive counter-pressures been so strong.

What is at stake? Not simply the protection of our homes and families now, but the already dubious stability of society in the coming generation. □

IF YOU CAN'T READ THIS...

by Philip Stevens

Grandad looked forward to seeing his newly-born grand-daughter. He enjoyed the frequent visits from the family and watching the baby first crawl and then walk. The months went by and soon the child was bringing picture books for her grandfather to look at. One day the little girl brought a new book with her. Cuddling close to grandad she said, "Grandad read." The elderly gentleman panicked. "Can't find my glasses," he gruffly replied, "Now run along and play." Putting the startled child down he hurriedly left the room.

Three million adults in the United Kingdom come face to face with situations like this sometime in their lives. It might not be a story book that presents the problem. It could be which bus to catch to visit a friend, or how to claim sickness benefit from the Social Services. Or maybe what dosage to take of a particular medicine. Things most of us can do without a second thought. But for this five percent or more of the adult population it is not so easy. For they are the group unable to read or write classed as adult illiterates. Not a disease, but a handicap that is as debilitating in some circumstances.

A Hidden Secret

The United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) has stated that to handle everyday situations each individual should have a functional reading ability of a 13 year-old. This means that a reader should be able to decipher words which have several syllables and comprehend the meaning of sentences of increasing length and complexity. Officially the person defined as an adult illiterate

has a reading age of less than 7 years and cannot build up a flow of single syllable words.

In spite of decades of compulsory education it is still possible that three out of every hundred passers-by you meet in the street cannot read, and a further two may not even be able to determine their own name. In a world where officialdom showers us with forms and questionnaires, where work reports need to be filled in and personal letters written, it surely is amazing that some people can virtually go through their entire life without revealing their problem.

And many *do* go to great lengths to preserve their secret. A person confronted with a situation similar to that of our illiterate grandfather will often make up a story for the child or recount one from memory to cover his deficiency. Another person, knowing that she will be asked to fill in a form, will conveniently "forget" her glasses and seek the aid of a by-stander. And how many workers have forgone holidays because the appropriate entitlement form has not been completed? Not being able to tell a story to a child may prove embarrassing and merely be a nuisance, but this overlooks the potentially more serious problems of a lack of ability to read. Most, if not all, industrial premises provide vital information for workers in writing. Safety precautions, fire procedures, first-aid instructions, are all displayed for an employee to take account of. Most of us take these notices for granted, but it is a courageous individual who will ask a colleague what is written on the newly-posted sign.

With these kind of difficulties in mind, the Member of Parliament

for Lewisham West, Mr. Christopher Price, introduced a Private Member's Bill into the Commons in 1974. Shortly afterwards, the British government granted £1 million to finance measures to help alleviate the difficulties faced by this section of our community. Much of this sum has been allocated, under the direction of the Adult Literacy Resource Agency (ALRA), for local authorities to establish schemes aimed at educating those in need of the basic skills of reading, writing and spelling. A nationwide symbol has been designed so that those with difficulty in reading can recognise where help is available to them. And in such a sensitive area as adult illiteracy, qualified sympathetic advice needs to be available wherever the symbol is displayed. The B.B.C. has started a television series to encourage the recognition of everyday words. A telephone number given at the conclusion of each programme can be called by those interested in being referred to a scheme in their area. The booklet that accompanies the programme has been a best-seller with the third edition now in print.

Twenty-five thousand volunteers in local areas have come forward offering help with teaching, administration, or even baby-sitting while mother is at a class. For some wives still manage and prefer to keep their secret from their husbands and therefore need to take their tuition while he is away at work.

Much of the initial teaching is done on a one-to-one basis in either the student's home or that of the tutor's. This method helps those, particularly in the younger age group, who may have a hatred of anything that smacks of a school classroom. Often, however, after several private sessions the student will feel confident enough to join a small group where they find they are all striving to achieve their goal of literacy.

Age Need Not Deter

Although most who come forward for tuition are between 25 and 40, all age groups are represented in the

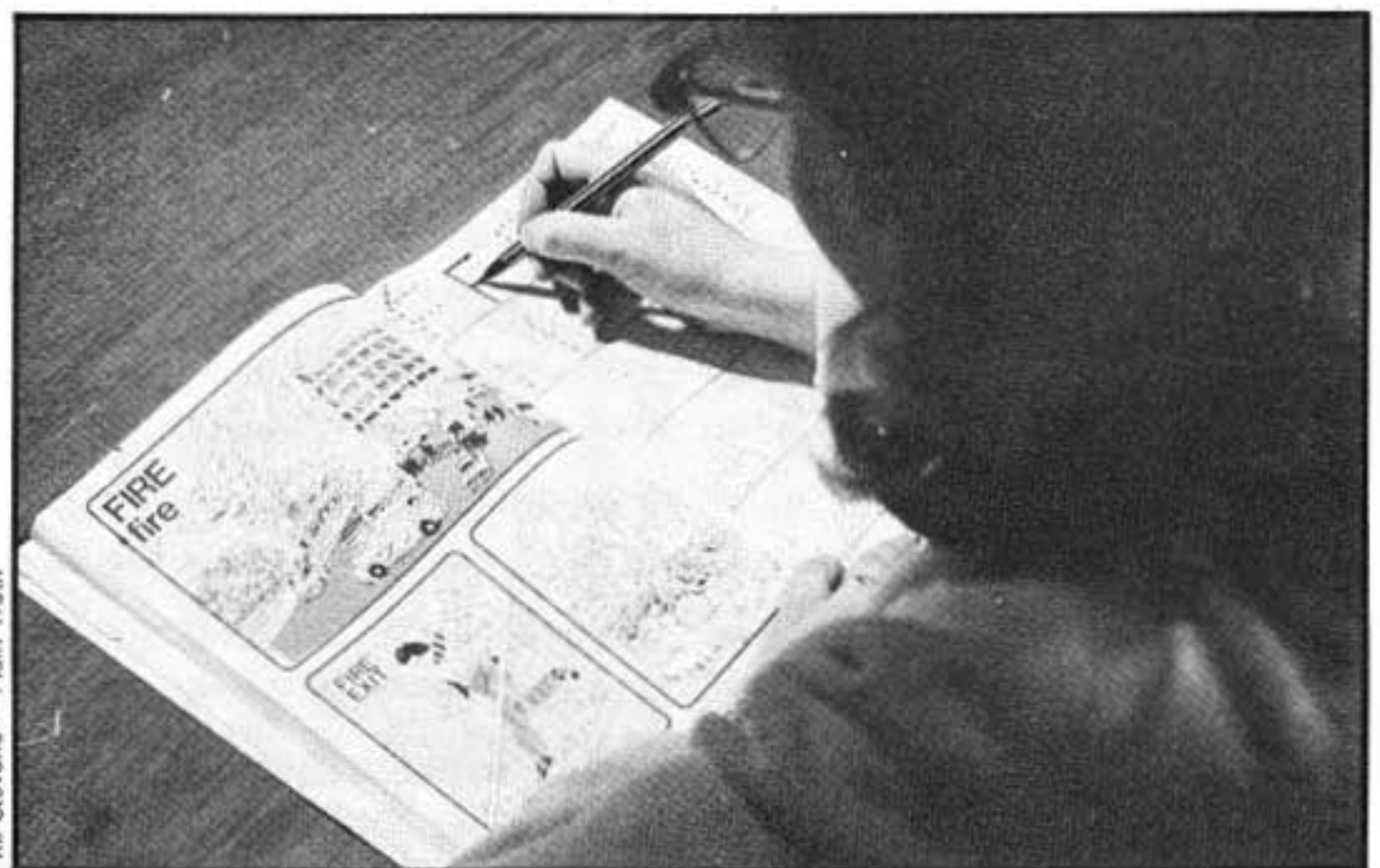
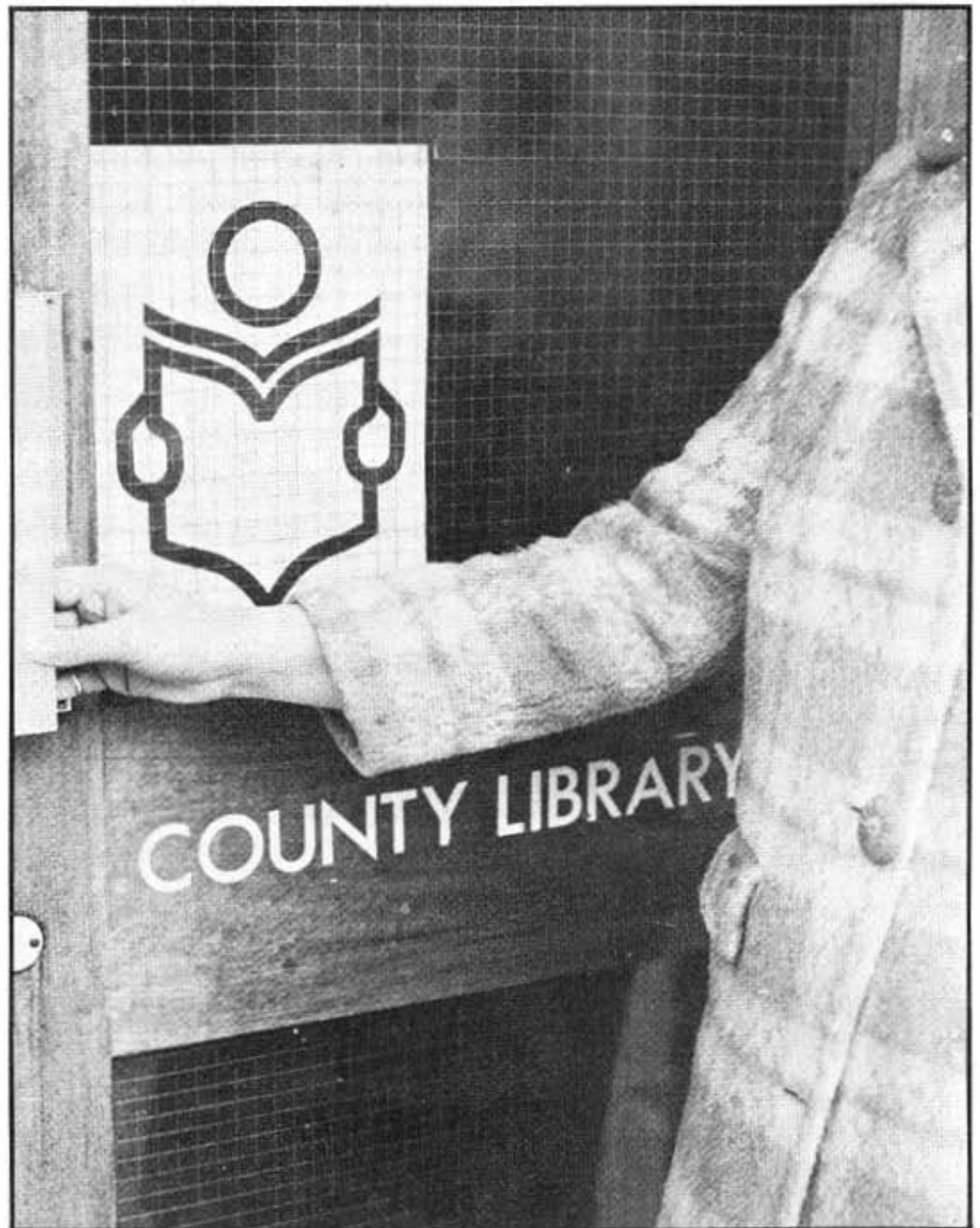
training schemes. One old age pensioner of 79 even started learning to read after his wife, who did his writing for him, died, and his need became self-evident.

So it is today that thousands of similarly motivated people are taking the plunge, and with the help of many local schemes are starting to enjoy the benefits the majority of us take for granted. Benefits like writing to a friend or relative, reading a newspaper, or having a bank account for the first time now that signing a cheque is no longer a problem.

Prior to the national campaign by ALRA, the Berkshire town of Reading had a small class of twelve adults tackling their literacy problem. Now, helped by funds granted by the government agency and a generous allocation by the progressive Berkshire County Council, this town runs classes and tuition for 210. Yet while this is a significant increase, much more still has to be done if the scheme is to reach out to the estimated 3,000 residents suffering from literacy deficiencies in the town.

Obviously, many who come forward for assistance are naturally embarrassed by their problem. Some prefer to come to the tuition centre under cover of darkness to avoid recognition by passers-by. In the rural areas where everyone knows everyone else a prospective student may elect to travel several miles to a large town. Here he or she is unlikely to be recognized and the tutor may be unaware of where the student lives. Understanding their position, the head of Adult Education Services for Reading, Ann Risman, deals with all her students in the strictest confidence. People who go there need have no fear that a

MANY CONCERNED authorities are meeting the challenge of educating the adult illiterate with the sympathetic as well as the technical help they need. The symbol shown is being promoted nationwide so those needing help can recognize where it is available.



Phil Stevens - Plain Truth

husband, wife or employer will be told of their secret.

Their apprehension stems from the view held for many years that any person who cannot read or write must be lacking in intelligence. But as more people have come forward for help this myth has been exposed. The fact that some illiterates have left several jobs because they were considered for promotion illustrates that these people are by no means ignoramuses. Indeed it is something of an achievement for a person who cannot read or write to serve satisfactorily in a number of positions over many years and still progress to a point where an employer wants to show his appreciation by offering job advancement. As Mrs. Risman explained: "It is obvious that most [of her students] are in jobs which they can perform on their own and which require varying standards of manual dexterity and skill. One can only marvel at the tragically unused potential of a man or woman who has to devote so much intelligence, energy and initiative to preserving the secret of their illiteracy. The notion of inactive and deprived illiterates is not one which will apparently hold good in this area. Our students appear in the main to be those who have 'slipped through the net' and [in this sense] the growing number of literacy schemes should give all educationalists cause for alarm."

Undiagnosed Physical Hindrances to Learning

So why *do* we find anyone today with a literacy problem? Certainly there are many varied reasons. Long periods of illness, or even the emotional upset of evacuation during the war years perhaps resulted in unavoidable interruptions to a person's schooling. But emotional stress *in the home* can also be very detrimental to a child's education and may result in prolonged truancy. Then there is the home where the television is allowed to become virtually the only means of entertainment or diversion for children, and there is little encouragement to read.

But there are other causes which, frankly, can be quite sad. In some cases for instance parents may have failed to realize that their children suffered from catarrhal deafness for certain periods of time. During this time difficulties with hearing would severely handicap their efforts to follow their teacher's instructions. But then, appreciating that their child was not progressing as well as could be expected, the parents may have been too easily satisfied with the teacher's comments that their child was "not very bright" anyway. It is not easy for teachers responsible for large classes to spot reasons for backwardness other than simple lack of intelligence. Yet only one pupil in a class of thirty who hadn't learned to read or write would result in a figure of three percent illiteracy in that class! An alarming statistic which helps explain the nation's overall illiteracy rate which approaches 6% of the adult population.

Another significant statistic is that of those who requested help from the Berkshire scheme twenty-eight percent had eyesight problems which had been diagnosed in their childhood or youth. Tutors there were able to help their students in obtaining glasses *for the first time*.

Certainly a concerted effort is being made at this time to enable many more adults to realize more of their potential as members of the community.

In one area an announcement was made over a hospital radio station about a literacy training scheme and a group has now started in the district. In the same district, with the cooperation of most of the local firms the adult literacy symbol and telephone number were inserted into wage packets.

On the other side of the coin it is reported that a factory near Cambridge displaying posters offering help to those with literacy difficulties was threatened with strike action if the notices were not removed immediately. But this type of incident is the exception. In addition to adult literacy schemes there are in at least three areas of the

country newspapers published for those who find reading difficult. Type is well spaced and sentences are kept purposefully uncomplicated. One newspaper named "Write First Time" is composed of contributions from individuals who have for a long time experienced difficulty in writing and reading. The short items can do much to encourage others to keep at their studies and achieve similar results. This paper has a current circulation of about 10,000 copies.

The forces that have been mobilised to combat this problem prove that cooperation between members of the public is possible, albeit in relatively small numbers compared with population size. Men and women working together for a worthwhile cause can go a long way toward a deeper awareness of each other's problems. And where a father or mother has admitted a literacy difficulty and their children are aware of the situation a bond of closer family unity is developed as the two generations learn side by side, encouraging and helping each other.

And constant encouragement is needed for these students. Often the supposed stigma attached to their situation causes them deep frustration. This in turn results in nervousness in the individual which makes learning all that much more difficult. Instead of looking upon those with literacy difficulties as misfits it is up to society to give sympathetic help.

Reading is a part of everyday activity that most of us accept without a second thought. Apart from simply for recreation, entertainment, etc., we use it for communication and for the development of knowledge. But for those setting out on the path to literacy it is the immediate need of being able to write one's name or perhaps read their child a bed-time story that is the big goal. Some do fall by the wayside, become disillusioned and give up, but the rewards for those who persevere are new horizons, unspoilt by the looming spectre of the discovery of their secret. □



ALTHOUGH GIVEN the thumbs-down locally, Expo '75 performed a long-term and far-reaching service.

EXPO '75

THE BENEFITS FOR THE FUTURE

by Donald Abraham

Okinawa: Expo '75 ended its brief existence on Sunday January 18, in what could almost be termed splendid isolation.

Which is somewhat of a pity because it did not really deserve the cold shoulder it was given by many people.

Panned by much of the media as an unsuccessful kind of Aquadisneyland and almost ignored by the rest, Expo '75 hardly had a chance to get off the ground.

Critics are now pointing to the shortfall of over 1 million in the expected number of visitors to the fair — down from 4.5 million to 3.4 million — as evidence of its failure.

Yet it seems as though they are using the wrong criteria in drawing their conclusions.

Expo's theme was "The Sea We Would Like To See" and it sought to focus attention on many of the significant developments — some of which are truly breathtaking — that are now taking place above, on and under the world's oceans — mankind's last frontier.

Some of the exhibits demonstrated some highly sophisticated and very complex systems for exploring the oceans down to a depth of 4,000 meters, as well as equipment and machinery for mapping ocean floors, exploring for seabed minerals, utilising the difference in water temperatures between shallow and deep ocean layers for the generation of electricity, and a host of other purposes.

For this reason, it is perhaps fitting that Expo '75 ended in the

same year that the third United Nations' Law of The Sea Conference is due to resume in Geneva.

It will have on its agenda several critical international problems including the development and exploitation of the vast seabed mineral deposits, the conservation of the living resources of the high seas, fishing, the preservation of the marine environment and the breadth of national territorial seas.

Most of these issues are of vital concern to Japan — especially those relating to fishing and the territorial seas. Fish forms an important part of the Japanese diet, being their primary source of animal protein. It is as important to them as beef is to most other Westerners.

Although Expo '75 did not deal with these global marine problems directly, it nevertheless did serve to focus attention on them.

So in spite of the panning it received from some sections of the media and despite its smaller success as a crowd-pleaser, Expo '75 did perform an important service — not only for the people of Okinawa to whom the seas have been a friend for many centuries but for the whole of mankind.

Looked at this way its value — rather than ending on January 18 — should continue for many years to come. □

orchids & onions

WOMEN'S LIB

I have been receiving the *Plain Truth* for 6 years now and find it a very useful and informative magazine and your booklets are very helpful in my Bible Studies. Over the past year or so the *Plain Truth* has run several articles on "Woman's Lib" and they are fine as far as they go. I have requested your booklet "The New Feminism" in the hope that it examines the causes of women's lib. The articles have not mentioned why women have become women's libbers but only criticise the movement. My theory is that MEN have for so long ignored the Biblical teachings on WOMEN, i.e. Colossians 3:19. Men have been harsh to women for so long, taking them for granted and treating them as chattels, that rebellion was inevitable. And like most rebellion it has gone too far, lost sight of the original aims, equality, and now wants superiority. And in spite of just laws being drafted and forthcoming equal pay, men still desert their families, or worse, don't leave but spend the housekeeping on booze, gambling, and then beat their wives. I can list many other instances of wife-abuse and as long as a male-dominated society tolerates and allows these oppressed women will fight for "liberation".

The *Plain Truth* often criticises women but don't you think men have a role to play too and deserve equal blame for radical, militant women's libbers?

R.S.,
Palmerston North, N.Z.

AT WITS END

I am at my "wit's end" with my husband's smoking! Please send your booklet "You can Quit Smoking". Keeping my fingers crossed . . .

Mrs. J.S.,
Templestowe, Vic., Aust.

LOCKED GATE

Having been loaned a book by a close friend of mine (the title "United States and British Commonwealth in Prophecy"), I am very interested in the Correspondence Course and would also like you to send me the *Plain Truth* magazine.

I have never been able to understand

the Bible but with the help of the loaned book it has been like opening a locked gate. I have read my Bible more in these past few months than I ever have before and I don't wish it to just sit around and collect dust like it has since I acquired it, a number of years ago.

T.R.,
Auckland, N.Z.

DATING BOOKLET

Would you please send me a free copy of "Modern Dating", as advertised on the radio? It is refreshing to hear somebody is trying to do something positive to help people prepare for marriage!

Brigidine Convent,
N.S.W., Aust.

Please forward to me a copy of the free booklet "Modern Dating" as soon as possible. I hope it contains hints on how to win your partner also.

Also, I wish to express my great appreciation of your efforts and the high quality of the literature received by me in the past, and also the prompt and efficient replies and obvious competent office management.

Mr. C.T.,
Townsville, Qld., Aust.

ALMOST JEALOUS

I have been listening to Mr. Armstrong's talks over the radio for many years, and how he can talk. I could almost be jealous of him — if it wasn't a sin to be so. You must be very proud of him. Yes, I would be very pleased to receive the booklets you have been offering.

Mrs. R.C.,
Lindisfarne, Tas., Aust.

WANTS TO CANCEL

Recently I wrote asking to see your *Plain Truth* magazine. Having seen the samples that you kindly sent me I would now like to halt any further copies. Though much of the material is interesting, in Christ I believe there is no Jew nor Greek, no oriental or occidental,

etc., and since we differ theologically please erase my name from your mailing list.

Paul C.,
Auckland, N.Z.

DESTRUCTIVE ANIMAL

Having been a policeman for many years, I'm fairly well experienced in the ways of the human race. I must admit that I pretty well agree with most of your articles and find them all educative.

Man, to me at present appears to be the most destructive killer animal that the world has experienced throughout its millions of years of history. Greed and materialism are well to the fore and destruction of animal life and natural resources is calamitous.

How Governments are going to educate youth in the proper direction is anyone's guess. We are most fortunate to be living in a land like New Zealand but how long this will last is another question. There appears to be too much of the "She'll be right Jack" attitude. However Ambassador College and the *Plain Truth* are doing the best they can to warn all. If they don't pay attention their future fate is up to themselves.

G.S.,
Rotorua, N.Z.

RADIO BROADCAST

Would you kindly forward to me the book "Managing Your Personal Finances", which Garner Ted Armstrong is currently advertising on his radio sessions. I listen intently to his shows, and find that they give me strength, confidence, and guidance to overcome the difficulties, stress and strain associated with everyday living. I do hope such programmes will be made available to the public for a long time to come.

Mrs. Alison M.,
Launceston, Tas., Aust.

Thank you for your literature — "A Theory for the Birds" — and an issue of the *Plain Truth* you sent me. I found the book "A Theory for the Birds" extremely interesting and informative to read and was wondering if you could send me your free article, "The Missing Link Found".

I am still receiving Radio i's signal very well down here in Christchurch and never miss one of your programmes if I can possibly help it.

B.R.,
Christchurch, N.Z.

AVID READERS

I have been a keen reader of the *Plain Truth* while I was at home in S.E. Asia. I found that this magazine furnished me with very informative and up-to-date news and I would not like to miss it. I should be much obliged if you could

kindly send me this magazine to read for years to come.

Miss N.S.C.,
Parkville, Vic., Aust.

I think *Plain Truth* is a very informative and unique magazine and should be read by everyone looking for a better life with no hangups. *Plain Truth* and the booklets you give away with it are an answer to everyone's problems.

Miss C.H.,
Beachlands, N.Z.

I have been a keen reader of the *Plain Truth* magazine since I was in Malaysia. This magazine contains worldwide news from which I can derive much up-to-date information and thus keep myself abreast of the times. Now I wish to continue reading your magazine while I am doing a matriculation course in Australia. Please subscribe me to the *Plain Truth* again.

Lee C.K.,
Parkville, Vic., Aust.

I am writing to give thanks to your organisation for the literature that you have been sending to me for quite some time. I find that the subjects covered in the *Plain Truth* do have an up-to-date meaning for the people of today. I must say that as one who has lived for quite a few years and does a lot of reading, I have yet to find another magazine to equal the *Plain Truth* in providing such well presented facts and figures. Thank you for past favours, and please accept the enclosed small donation to help your most excellent work and may our Heavenly Father prosper your work.

J.C.H.,
Scarborough, Qld., Aust.

Please find enclosed a donation toward the expenses involved in publishing *Plain Truth*. I enjoy the magazine very much and particularly admire the manner in which you not only comment on the faults in Communistic nations but also on the greed of materialism and lack of real Christianity present in Western Society.

Keep up the good work.

Roy H.,
Christchurch, N.Z.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to you for your magazine *Plain Truth* which I have been reading since 1972. Your magazine is extraordinarily interesting as it covers such a multitude of subjects which dig deep and make a lot of sense in this modern world. I very much appreciate the time, effort and

money spent on bringing the *Plain Truth* free of charge to educate humanity.

Miss N.N.,
Ba, Fiji.

I have been a regular receiver of your wonderful *Plain Truth* magazine for the past seven years or so, and I wish to thank you for your generous service to me and millions of other readers. This magazine really works wonders. It has moulded me for a better future, in a way that has greatly contributed to my studies and solved many of my problems that I have encountered. I wish to continue reading this invaluable magazine of yours for as long as you care to send it to me.

Mr. Peter T.,
Batu Pahat, Malaysia.

I would like to thank Ambassador College for sending me the wonderful magazine, the *Plain Truth*. To me it is a tremendous magazine which deals with all walks of life, and it is such a tremendous help to my life. Also I would like to enroll in your Correspondence Course of Understanding the Bible if it is possible.

Ms Mona M.,
Coburg, Vic., Aust.

Please send me a copy of "Crime can be Stopped — Here's How!", "The Plain Truth about Child Rearing" and also, if possible, a copy of "Our Polluted Planet". Congratulations on such a terrific magazine which has so much to offer. It provides the reader with hours of interesting facts, and, of course, the plain truth. All free of charge too! Keep up the good work, and good luck.

Mr. J.D.,
St. Marys, South Aust.

EXPERIENCE THE BEST TEACHER?

Having just read your article entitled "Drugs — Don't let it Happen to Your Child", in an old copy of the *Plain Truth*, I thought I should say a few words, mainly because the people who wrote the article seem to have missed the outstanding reason why people take drugs. I have taken many drugs, although I have touched none recently.

I grew up in an average middle class home, but pressures to achieve good results at school and to present myself as a sociably acceptable person were overwhelming. My clothes, hair-length and friends were constantly under my parents' scrutiny. When I wanted privacy I was considered selfish. I was repressed. The wonder of life just didn't exist. I was taught to go to Church every Sunday — the sermons were all moralising — about experiences I was not to have,

yet when I cast my eyes about the Church I saw a congregation of dull souls for whom religious experience did not exist. I talked to several ministers and priests, but none could do anything but moralise. What I really sought was the religious experience of God. But while I was taking acid (LSD) I experienced the beauty of the earth, and then I realised I should not dwell on the sorrow but rather the positive aspects, and cease my hedonistic way. But I tell you this now because I doubt that the writers of your article have ever taken acid: If they have not experienced it and know nothing about it, they have no right to criticise or condemn those who have!

Anon.,
Brisbane, Qld., Aust.

PLENTY TO THINK ABOUT

Please send me the brochure "Our Awesome Universe" as my wife and myself are very interested in the night sky. We do enjoy receiving the *Plain Truth*, and while we might not agree with all the contents, it does give us plenty to think about, as events all over the world do worry and puzzle us.

Mr. & Mrs. L.,
Hawkes Bay, N.Z.

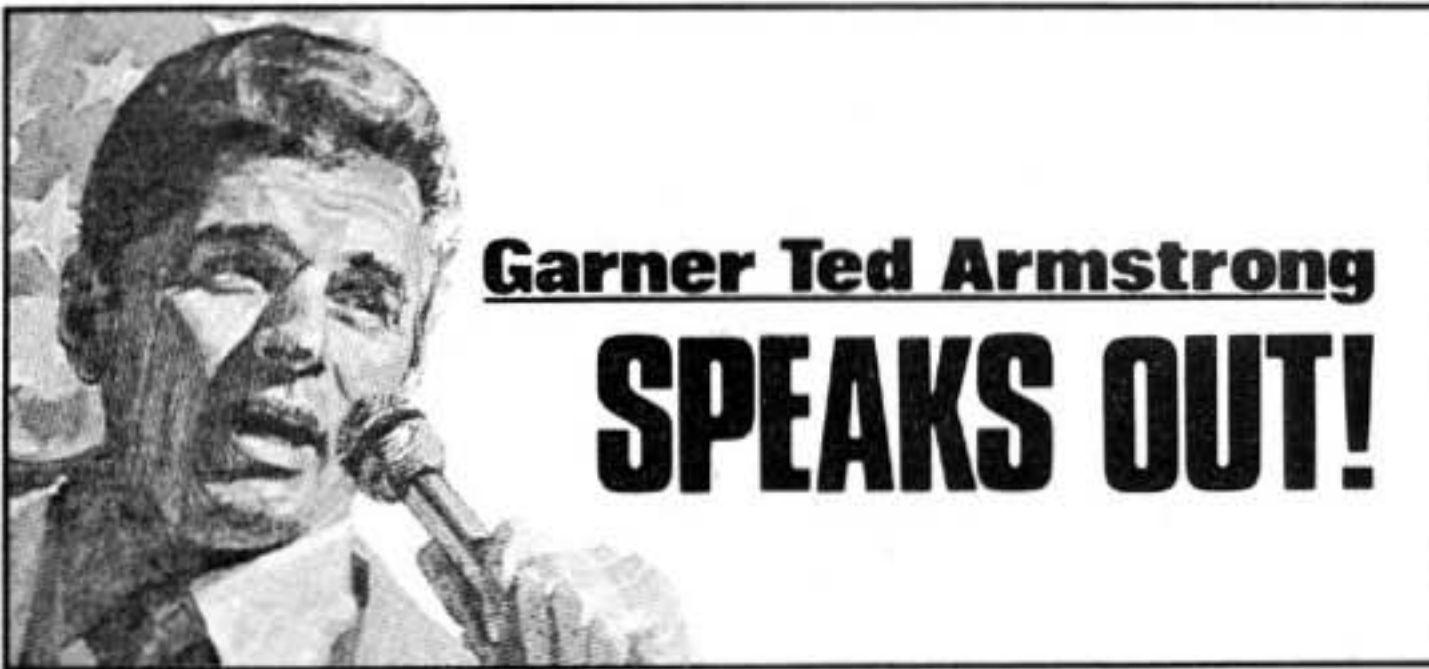
GUIDE IN DAILY LIFE

I have been receiving the *Plain Truth* for some time, and I would like to say I enjoy reading your articles ever since I started receiving them. Apart from enjoyment, I have found it to be a guide in my daily life. May I have this opportunity of thanking all your staff who have been working so hard in the past in order to produce such interesting and worthy articles. It is one of my goals to achieve the happy and better life physically, socially, financially, and on top of these, spiritually.

N.K.,
Suva, Fiji.

The *Plain Truth* is much better now that it is back in magazine form again. I would like to see more local content and spiritual or prophetic biblical articles in the magazine. I am most interested in bible prophecy as relevant to these last days. We listen to Garner Ted Armstrong's radio message from Radio i, Auckland. He is a good forceful speaker — it's a pity we can't have him on television in New Zealand.

Mr. & Mrs. P.,
North Canterbury, N.Z.



America's Two Choices

There is a gigantic battlefield being drawn today, which is, in fact, the entirety of the world. On one side are arrayed the "have" nations; on the other side are the "have-not" nations. The first group comprises the industrialized, non-Communist, democratic nations with only about 750 million citizens in Europe and Britain, the United States, South Africa, Australia, and Canada. These 750 million citizens are consuming a disproportionate chunk of the natural resources of the world, producing a great percentage of its manufactured commodities and goods, and enjoying, as a result, the very highest standards of living in all history.

Then, on the other hand, there are the hundred or more nations which are undeveloped, poor, usually in the throes of violent overthrows, coups d'état, guerrilla warfare, civil war, and strife — and quite often the unwitting pawns in the ideological struggle between the superpowers.

These "have-not" states represent well over 2,000 million people, millions of whom live their entire lives at an abject poverty level.

So far, this global battle between the rich and poor nations has been limited to economic pressures, to political pressures, and to fiery speeches from new despots. It has been limited to the forming of various blocs and pressure groups — such as the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, or OPEC.

But we have no assurance this conflict will be limited in the future to

only political and economic pressures. Will it eventually emerge into actual warfare worldwide?

Ironically, some Third World nations have been promised nuclear reactors by the United States, which would enable them, if they chose, to go about the business of making themselves a low-yield — maybe in the kiloton range — "dirty" bomb of the type that obliterated about 90,000 lives in Hiroshima or Nagasaki! They could then indulge in a little nuclear "sabre rattling," not only against their own immediate neighbors — as might occur between India and Bangladesh, for example — but against members of the developed "First World" as well!

No Time For Isolationism

It's time to take a good look at the way the world really is. And that requires some serious introspection on the part of the American people!

Today in the U.S. one hears a great deal of talk about isolationism. Many people have been saying, in effect: "Let's go isolationist and let other people solve their own problems." There are people in the Congress and in governmental positions who actually advocate such a "world dropout" policy (always claiming the Vietnam debacle as their rationale).

At the end of World War II, the United States emerged holding just about all the marbles. She was the biggest military and industrial power the world had ever seen. The U.S. alone possessed the nuclear weapons with which to intimidate, if she so

chose, the entirety of the world.

From that time on the United States, like it or not, was shoved into a role of "playing empire." America was the big hope for the underdeveloped world. The U.S. supplied not only money, but also technical know-how and skilled manpower to bring impoverished peoples out of their grinding poverty. But today, nearly all of these nations, it seems, are her avowed enemies.

There's something else rather annoying that we are beginning to see happen as well in America. I don't know quite how to label it, but it involves the vast hypocrisy of her attempting to wash her filthy linen before the rest of the world to prove how clean she really is. By this I'm referring to the new mood in the U.S. Congress and press, and a good part of the public as well, to uncover all undercover operations, to take the cloak off all governmental secrecy, to expose CIA agents abroad, to take everything to the people because "they have a right to know" and, thus to effectively force the government to cease functioning as far as foreign policy is concerned.

The sobering fact is that Americans live in a world filled with people who want them dead. A world of states and governments who would rejoice in the streets, light bonfires, go arm in arm, drinking, singing, and cheering if they could hear that the United States of America is no more.

They would react in exactly the same manner spoken of in the book of Lamentations in the Bible, chapter 2, verse 16: "All your enemies deride you. They hiss and grind their teeth and say, 'We have destroyed her at last! Long have we waited for this hour and it is finally here! With our own eyes we've seen her fall!'" (Living Bible).

It's a perverse desire to see the big giant come crashing down.

The economic weight and leverage of the United States of America is incredible. The gross product of one state alone, California, is larger than the vast majority of all the other countries on the face of the earth.

Now, in the meantime, we see this ultimate hypocrisy of her wanting to appear to be righteous before all the rest of the world, to appear to be so totally righteous that she would never

dare engage in any kind of furtive or clandestine activities elsewhere in the world.

The Soviet Union, on the other hand, doesn't recognize any "rules," but will play the game of big power politics any way it can. And many other states operate along the same lines too.

But America is righteous, you see. She is holy. She plays fair, and she wants them to appreciate that. The U.S. is sure that by the time every CIA agent in the entirety of the world is exposed, all of these wonderful people who want her buried, who would rejoice in their streets to see her go straight down the drain, will laud and praise America (in their government-controlled news media) and say what a marvelous country it is: "Look at that honesty. Look at that integrity. Isn't it wonderful that America doesn't have such a thing as an undercover agent? America is so openminded. Isn't America wonderful?"

One would have to be insane to believe other nations would look at America that way. It just doesn't make sense.

America is the world's wealthiest nation. She also happens to be a democratic nation that happens to believe in the basic freedoms and the dignity of humankind. She happens to believe those founding concepts and precepts of her forebears are precious, as are the founding fathers who could envision and produce such absolutely marvelous documents as the Constitution of the United States, and the Bill of Rights.

There are only two possible ways in which America can maintain her wealth and freedoms: either by military force or by trusting God. Now, it's obvious from her national conduct that she's not going to trust in God — in spite of the slogan on the currency saying "In God we trust." So let's be realistic and deal with the way things really are.

The only way the United States can survive in such a gigantic global conflict is for the United States to maintain the kind of army, navy, air force, marine corps, coast guard, and other auxiliary services which are required to safeguard her peace and freedom. It's that simple.

But take a look at what has been

happening to the U.S. military over the last few years.

I don't know whether it all began with the mother who wanted to sue her son's army instructor or whether it began with revelations from turned-off "squaddies" who would go over the wall to tell people the corporal had called him a dirty name or whether someone lost his life because of the rigors of an obstacle course in an army training camp. But somehow, gradually, insistently, and primarily as a result of overexposure and constant torturous coverage by the press of some of these alleged "horrible treatments" of young men in the military services, feeling in America about the military began to change.

Perhaps it began in Korea, during the "police action" of 1950-53. Until then, and especially as a result of World War II, Americans were basically given the notion of great patriotism, great courage, and great bravery under fire on the part of her troops. But Americans came face-to-face for the first time, in Korea, with American military personnel deserting not only their army, but also deserting their country and going over to the other side.

Many, if not most, of the deserters have returned to the United States, and they learned some rather severe lessons. But it took them 10, 15, or more years to learn those lessons.

But it was the agony of the long conflict in Vietnam that really changed American attitudes toward the military. She began to see young men refusing to go into battle, directly contravening commands of their officers. And, as if that wasn't enough, we heard reports of open warfare behind the lines among her own troops, where the enlisted men were actually shooting at their own officers! And where officers didn't dare get out there in the rice paddies ahead of some of the enlisted men for fear they would be the ones to end up with a bullet in their back.

Today the young people of America want all the pleasures her materialistic society offers. They want their cars. They want their homes. They want their jobs. They want their freedoms that they take so much for granted.

Her people want the various gov-

ernmental programs — housing subsidies, food stamps, and various other welfare programs and help for the poor.

But incredibly, she is determined not to maintain the kind of military organization that can guarantee the retention of her way of life.

I have already said there is another way. But, of course, you and I both know we'd be crazier than a loon if we think this world, let alone the United States of America, is going to depend upon God for its protection. In Isaiah 40:21-22 it says: "Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain" (RSV).

God says furthermore: "'With whom will you compare me? Who is my equal?', asks the Holy One. Look up into the heavens! Who created all these stars? . . . calling each by its pet name . . ." (Living Bible).

And he continues: "Don't you yet understand? Don't you know by now that the everlasting God the Creator of the farthest parts of the earth, never grows faint or weary? No one can fathom the depths of his understanding. He gives power to the tired and worn out and strength to the weak. Even the youths shall be exhausted, and the young men will all give up. But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength" (Living Bible).

And then comes that famous Bible text: "They shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." He says he holds nations in the hollow of his hand. He says all countries are as the small dust of the balance. He sets up and deposes kings, rulers, countries, and governments.

But as we don't believe in the power of that God, we're not going to depend upon him for our well-being. But what doesn't make sense to me, as a minister, an evangelist, a news commentator, and an observer is this: Knowing that America won't trust God, I can't understand why she wants to tear down her military. □

ATOMIC WASTES

Growing Threat to Mankind

by Sudhir Chandra

To the growing problem of the pollution of our land, sea and air by chemical and other waste products is now added the lethal by-product of the nuclear age: radioactive wastes.

While the debate grows hot over its dangers, the growing pile of nuclear trash — radioactive wastes produced by atomic reactors — threatens to get out of hand.

The solidified nuclear wastes in the U.S. for example will grow from this year's 2300 cubic feet to 61,000 cft. in 1985, mounting to 471,000 cft. in 2000 A.D.

The hazards of radioactivity make the problem of disposal of these wastes difficult. It cannot be just "conveniently" dumped into the air or water like other wastes. Radioactivity is harmful to all life and can also affect future generations by damaging one's reproductive cells which are particularly sensitive to radiation. The effects are cumulative — small doses over a period of time can eventually cause major damage. Radiation is "invisible" — it cannot be felt, except in massive doses.

At every stage of the use of the atom — from mining and preparing of uranium ore for reactors and weapons, to using radioisotopes in industry, hospitals and agriculture — a stream of gaseous, liquid and solid nuclear wastes keeps pouring out. Fission products produced during the use of nuclear fuels in reactors are by far the largest source of radioactive waste.

As the number of nuclear power stations rises rapidly — 163 are now in operation world wide and another 332 are under construction — atomic fuel is required in increasing quantities, resulting in more nuclear wastes.

The disposal of these wastes has to be strictly controlled and kept within limits. Such limits depend on many factors, such as population of the area, hydrological and geological conditions and proximity to rivers or lakes.

There are only two ways to manage radioactive wastes: they can either be dispersed into the environment under certain conditions or they can be confined so they do not get into the environment.

Millions of gallons of nuclear waste are stored around the world — 90 million gallons in the U.S. alone — awaiting eventual reduction to solid form. Some of this material will be continuing to give off harmful radiation for as long as 25,000 years.

There are three points of danger in the nuclear power process: one is the reactor itself. It may blow up because of some defect, especially in the flow of cooling water, though this is an extremely rare possibility.

The second is fuel reprocessing: after about two years' use, part of the reactor fuel — in the form of 500-800 "rods" each weighing nearly 500 pounds — needs to be replaced. This is a complicated operation which must be carried out with meticulous care. As the number of atomic power facilities increases, more and more radioactive waste has to be moved in trucks, trains and ships. The shipping casks are so designed, insist officials, that danger of any accident or explosion is remote. But the risk exists.

The third is the storage of nuclear wastes. There may be dangerous leaks of radioactive material into the surrounding earth and water reservoirs. A natural calamity like an earthquake near a storage area

may prove disastrous. There was a major leak of 115,000 gallons of highly radioactive waste two years ago at Hanford in the U.S.A. because of a defective storage tank.

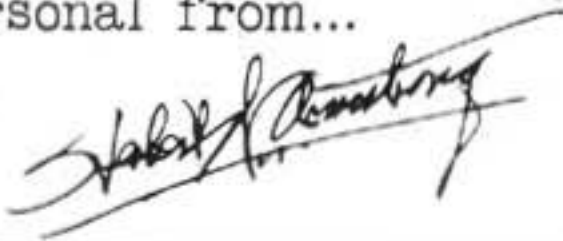
Though man's rising energy needs and the depleting fossil fuels rule out abandoning the atom as a power source, radioactive minerals are still an "unconventional" fuel to most laymen, and the risks give rise to irrational fears in the minds of many. This is even apart from the non-environmental dangers of nuclear power stations (spread of atomic weapons and nuclear blackmail by terrorists), and the waste-disposal problem.

Sir John Hills, Chairman of the U.K. Atomic Energy Authority, emphasises the other side of the picture: "Nuclear power is safer and cleaner and has less impact on the environment than any other practical alternative way of producing the power we require. The nuclear industry has from its birth been the subject of controls, regulations and safety procedures far more stringent than any other."

With the debate about the safety of nuclear power growing highly emotional, with the two sides almost resembling armed camps, the advice of Mr. Maurice Strong, Director of the U.N. Environment Programme, seems to be the most pertinent: "Surely one does not have to be opposed to nuclear power as such to believe that it is only sensible and rational to assure that the full consequences of our escalating commitment to nuclear energy are evaluated before we drift into over-reliance on this source of power." □

Courtesy Himmat Magazine

Personal from...



(Continued from page 1)

sible a greater diffusion of knowledge and exchange of ideas, and then by more rapid means of transportation — the steam engine, the steamboat, the automobile, the aeroplane. And finally, the telephone, telegraph, radio, TV.

But what was the original impetus?

Science to Solve Man's Problems?

With the emergence of "modern science" around the beginning of the 19th century, scientists assured the world that man had progressed to the point where he then could dispense with the superstitious crutch of religion and belief in God. Now humanity could rely on the *new* messiah — Modern Science.

"Given sufficient knowledge," said the scientists, "we shall solve all of humanity's problems and cure all the world's ills."

To replace religion and belief in God, scientists and educators had substituted the doctrine of evolution. The tools Modern Science used in the production of this new KNOWLEDGE were a stepped-up use of those man had employed since the dawn of history — rejection of revelation as a source of knowledge and the use of observation, experimentation, and human reason.

So the production of KNOWLEDGE increased at a constantly accelerating pace. The world's total fund of knowledge virtually *doubled* in the one decade of the 1960's!

But, paradoxically, as knowledge has increased, *so have humanity's* problems, troubles and evils, at almost an equal rate of acceleration!

What's wrong with the dictum that knowledge is the sole need for

solutions? We are face to face with the stern FACT that increasing evils have escalated alongside increasing knowledge! That is not to say that the increased knowledge *caused* the growing evils. It does mean that the knowledge produced *did not cure* existing evils, *or prevent new evils!*

The ANSWER becomes plain. There was *something wrong* with the knowledge being produced, or else the needed MISSING DIMENSION in knowledge was not being discovered.

To the dictum of science that given sufficient knowledge, mankind's problems would be solved and humanity's ills cured, I add this: Solutions come from the *right* knowledge that supplies the *right* answer — the true CAUSE of both the evils and the CAUSE that would produce peace and joy and every GOOD result; and, secondly, solutions come from the application of that knowledge. For knowledge is of value only to the extent that it is *used!*

The Academic Freedom to Reject Basic Knowledge!

In this feverish development of knowledge production, universities have been placing great emphasis on *academic freedom*. Academic freedom is defined as the independent judgment allowed teachers, scholars, scientists, and students in the pursuit of knowledge.

Science as a whole and higher education have exercised the academic freedom to postulate a creation without a Creator. They have engaged in the activity of knowledge production with total rejection of any possibility of the miraculous, the supernatural, the existence of God — or anything outside the realm of the material. They have rejected utterly revelation as a source of basic knowledge!

When I engaged in research on the theory of evolution, I studied Darwin, Haeckel, Huxley, Vogt, Chamberlain, and other exponents of the theory. But also I looked at

the other side of the question. But I would venture to say that most of those whose higher education has been acquired during the past half century have been taught and have accepted without question the evolutionary theory, *not having examined with any seriousness* the biblical evidences of special creation. The world's "best seller" has been dismissed *without a hearing*.

Is it not human to err?

Could it be *possible* for the most highly educated minds to have been intellectually misled or deceived? Could they, viewing only *one side* of the question, be infallible, entirely above making mistakes? For many years now, I have observed that errors almost always come when a person starts with a false basic premise — carelessly assumed as self-evident and taken for granted without question — and then builds on that false basic hypothesis.

Suppose we now appropriate the academic freedom to question that which educators have dismissed without examination.

Is it possible for us to find the EXPLANATION of why MAN is as he is, WHY the world is filled with evils? Is it possible for us to discover the CAUSE of all human suffering, anguish, unhappiness, and inequality? Is it possible to find the CAUSE that would produce peace, happiness, abundance, and prosperity — the CAUSE which world leaders have apparently overlooked? Is it possible to find the key to human survival?

The answer to the preceding questions is "YES!" Yes, it is possible to answer these basic questions that have haunted man as long as he has existed. Yes, there is an answer to these questions that deal with man's very survival. If you want ANSWERS to these questions, write for our booklet *Why Were You Born*. It's free for the asking. Also be sure to read *Plain Truth's* new feature series dedicated to human survival which begins on page 9 of this issue. □

GARNER TED ARMSTRONG



*reveals the PLAIN TRUTH about today's
world news and the prophecies of
THE WORLD TOMORROW*

Plain Truth
Printed in N.Z.

Today's world is beset by unprecedented threats to human survival. Leaders are beginning to speak in matter-of-fact terms about the prospect of mass starvation in vast areas, of a worldwide depression, of the use of nuclear weapons even by smaller, more unstable nations.

But there is hope for a better world.

You can hear Garner Ted Armstrong explain the meaning of today's world conditions and the way to happiness and world peace.

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